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Japan

Clinton's Remarks on Trade Deficit Reported

OW2302030593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0139 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Washington, Feb. 22 KYODO [dateline as received]—President Bill Clinton voiced strong concern Monday [22 February] about the lopsided U.S. trading relationship with Japan which he said is the only industrial country that maintains a "structural" trade surplus with the United States. Clinton singled out Japan as a special trade problem during a tour of a high-technology computer equipment factory on the west coast where he sought voters' support for his economic plan to revitalize the U.S. economy.

Clinton told workers at Silicon Graphics in San Jose, California, that he wants Japan to buy more American goods but held out little hope of substantially scaling back the chronic trade deficit, which widened to nearly 50 billion dollars last year. "With Japan, I think what we have to do is to try to continue to help more companies figure out how to do business there and keep pushing them to open their markets," Clinton said when asked about his administration's trade policy.

Clinton said the U.S. still has "a lot of problems" in its trade ties with Japan and suggested that the Japanese represent a special case as Washington seeks to bring its trade with other countries in balance. "With Europe, we sometimes are in surplus, we're sometimes in deficit, but it's a floating thing, so it's more or less in balance," he said.

Clinton noted that the U.S. also has largely balanced trade with Canada, its largest trade partner, and such countries as Taiwan and South Korea have bought more from the United States "as they became richer." Japan "is the only nation with which we have a persistent and unchanging structural deficit," Clinton said.

Further Reaction to Yen Appreciation Reported

Hiraiwa Urges Curtailment

OW2202050393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0417 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb. 22 KYODO—The head of the Japan Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) called the Monday morning rise of the yen against the dollar too high- paced. Federation officials also quoted him as saying that it would be unfavorable to the Japanese economy.

Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of the federation and also chairman of Tokyo Electric Power Co., said the Bank of Japan (BOJ) should intervene in the market to curtail the sharp rise in the yen's value against the U.S. dollar, they said. The dollar was traded at 117.10 yen at the morning close, its lowest level ever. Hiraiwa is in Malaysia at the head of a federation mission that is visiting Southeast Asia.

Kaku Comments on 'Lopsided' Rise

OW2202085093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0828 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 22 KYODO—A Bank of Japan (BOJ) official said on Monday the chances are slim that the yen will continue its rapid upward ascent against the dollar for long.

"The Japanese economy is creeping along at the bottom of the current economic downcycle, while the U.S. economy is showing clear signs of a genuine recovery. It is unthinkable for the yen to keep its lopsided advance," said Kagehide Kaku, head of the central bank's Research and Statistics Department.

Powered by persisting speculations that the world's major economic powers may agree on guiding the yen higher to slim Japan's trade surplus at their upcoming meeting in London this weekend, the yen zoomed more than 2 yen to end for a record high of 116.85 yen against the dollar in Tokyo Monday deals.

Briefing reporters on the BOJ's monthly economic review, Kaku also played down concerns, expressed mainly by exporters, that a strong yen will further damage the already battered economic health. "The recent uptrend of the yen will unlikely have a grave impact on the economy," he said.

His comments came on the heels of anxious remarks made by the Vice Trade Minister Yuji Tanahashi that a further rise in the yen may hurt already hard-pressed industry.

Hayashi: Yen's Rise Too Rapid

OW2302024893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0221 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi said Tuesday the yen's current surge against the U.S. dollar is too rapid and the financial authorities will "take appropriate measures to stablize the foreign exchange market." Hayashi made the remark at a regular press conference held after a cabinet meeting.

The dollar opened Tuesday in Tokyo at a record low of 116.40 yen, down 0.45 yen from Monday's close of 116.85 yen, following its plunge on overseas markets. Monday's finish—down 2.38 yen from Friday—was a record low for the dollar in Tokyo.

Hayashi expressed concern about the negative effect of the yen's appreciation on Japan's economy, still in recession. He was optimistic, however, that the "current situation should not last very long" and is a short-term phenomenon.

The finance minister said he has been in close contact with other nations about the foreign exchange market but declined to elaborate.

Hayashi declined to comment when asked whether he thinks the current dollar-yen exchange rate level is acceptable. The exchange rate issue will be discussed at the meeting of finance ministers and central bankers of the Group of Seven (G-7) major countries in London on Saturday [27 February], he said, but again declined to elaborate.

The sharp decline of the dollar, which was trading at around 124 yen earlier this month, was largely triggered by speculation that the G-7 will agree on a stronger yen to ease the soaring Japanese trade surplus.

Explicit remarks supporting the yen's appreciation by U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen last Friday accelerated the dollar- bearish sentiment in the market.

Hayashi said Japan is broadly considering measures to "recycle" its trade surplus to overseas, including setting a long-term goal on the amount of Official Development Assistance (ODA) or foreign aid.

MITI, EPA Chiefs Express Opinions

OW2302045493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0314 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—The yen's quick rise against the U.S. dollar may hamper Japan's economic recovery and produce unfavorable results on the global economy, the trade minister said Tuesday. International Trade and Industry Minister Yoshiro Mori said at a press conference, "the yen's appreciation does not reflect Japan's real economic conditions. Japan's exporting industry may be badly affected."

After opening Tuesday in Tokyo at a new record low of 116.40 yen, the dollar fell to 116.30 yen, before going back up. At 10:30 A.M., it stood at 116.63 yen, down 0.22 yen from Monday's close of 116.85 yen.

Mori denied speculation that finance ministers and central bankers of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations may approve the yen's upward trend at their London meeting on Saturday. "Finance Minister (Yoshiro) Hayashi said he would never agree to it, and the government understands his view," Mori said.

Mori also said, "it may be impossible to reduce the trade surplus by manipulating exchange rates. Recovery in domestic demand is a basic remedy." In this regard, Mori suggested the government should discuss an income tax cut from the viewpoint of its effects in stimulating consumer demand, rather than just thinking of the need to issue deficit-covering bonds to finance such a cut.

Hajime Funada, director general of the Economic Planning Agency, also expressed concern about the yen's sharp appreciation against the dollar, describing it as "a little too fast." "The yen's movement appears a little too fast. Moderate and mild movements are desirable," Funada said at a press conference following a regular cabinet meeting.

Funada said the yen's advance could have negative effects on exporters such as automakers and consumer electronics companies, but noted that the overall impact would not be so big if the yen's advance turns out to be short-lived. "I don't believe right now that it would delay the timing of economic recovery," he said.

Miyazawa: G-7 Agreement Unlikely

OW2302061793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0542 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa discounted speculation Tuesday that financial officials of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations will agree to allow the yen to continue to appreciate on the foreign exchange market. Miyazawa told reporters that he believes it unlikely that the G-7 representatives will take such action at their meeting scheduled to be held in London this Saturday.

Chino Expects Yen To Stabilize

OW2302051093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0407 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—A senior Finance Ministry official said Tuesday he expects the yen's advance against the U.S. dollar to run its course soon, describing it as speculative. "The yen's current rise is speculative, it will return (to normal) in any case," said Tadao Chino, vice finance minister for international affairs.

Chino was speaking to reporters after meeting Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa to report on the yen's advance and other monetary issues. He suggested that the yen's rise could be discussed at a meeting of finance ministers and central bankers of the Group of Seven industrial nations in London on Saturday [27 February]. The G-7 groups Japan, the United States, Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Canada.

Asked about possible coordinated intervention by major central banks to stem the yen's rise, Chino said it might happen but noted that such intervention would be effective only if it came suddenly. "We have had close contact with other countries," Chino said.

Mieno Tries To 'Allay Concern'

OW2302061293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0541 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said Tuesday it would be impossible to artificially guide the yen's value upward to a certain level.

Mieno said at a lecture meeting in Tokyo that the current steep rise in the value of the Japanese currency is based

on speculation about how the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations will react to the yen's appreciation at their meeting in London on Saturday. "It is desirable that currency exchange rates reflect economic fundamentals in their respective countries. The current pace of the yen's appreciation is too fast," he said.

His remark was apparently intended to allay concern that representatives at the G-7 meeting will agree to allow the yen to appreciate further, analysts said. Mieno said the representatives will engage in a frank exchange of views at this weekend's meeting. The session will be attended by finance ministers and central bankers from the seven countries—Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Germany, Japan and the United States.

Mieno: Global Economy To Improve 'This Year'

OW2302051193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0439 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, feb. 23 KYODO—Bank of Japan (BOJ) Governor Yasushi Mieno predicted Tuesday that the world economy will show a slight improvement this year.

He told a meeting at the Japan National Press Center in Tokyo that although the U.S. economy has begun to show a strong recovery, those of European countries remain in the doldrums. "Under such circumstances, global interest in the performance of the Japanese economy is strengthening. "Japan needs to extricate itself from severe economic conditions and seek noninflationary, sustainable economic growth," Mieno said.

He said the nation's final demand as a whole remains sluggish and that the economy will have to rely largely on demand from the public sector for the time being. The central bank will seek to remove the risk of a further downturn of the Japanese economy, Mieno said.

New York Mayor Meets With Miyazawa 22 Feb

OW2202075893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0733 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 22 KYODO—Saying crime rates are on the decline, New York Mayor David Dinkins told Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa Monday the Big Apple has the welcome mat ready for Japanese investors and tourists. "My concern at the moment is to have as much business from Japan come to our city as we can, and we are just delighted with the Japanese business people that are in our city," Dinkins said, emerging from a 25-minute meeting with Miyazawa. "We are trying to do everything we can to accommodate them and make them feel welcome," he said.

Japanese companies in New York city account for 20 percent of all foreign businesses.

In the meeting at the prime minister's official residence, Dinkins told Miyazawa that the recession has bottomed out.

Dinkins said an increase in police officers has helped bring about the first decline in major crimes such as homicide and robbery in 37 years, a Foreign Ministry official said.

Tourism brings the city 14 billion dollars in revenue a year, Dinkins was quoted saying. Japanese tourists are reputed to be the highest spenders of all travelers, but they also are among the most safety conscious.

Dinkins, who met with Tokyo Governor Shunichi Suzuki earlier in the day, arrived Saturday on a weeklong visit to drum up investment and tourism. It is his first visit to Asia.

Kono Entrusted With SDF Mozambique Decision

OW2302050993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0345 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Tuesday he will entrust Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono with the decision on whether to send Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel to Mozambique for U.N. peacekeeping duties. Kono is known to be cautious about making an early SDF commitment to a second nation before there is full public support for the dispatch of Japanese peacekeepers to Cambodia.

The United Nations has promised to send 7,500 troops to Mozambique in a peacekeeping mission that was due to start this month.

Last September's dispatch of a 600-member ground Self-Defense Force corps of engineers to Cambodia was the first overseas deployment of Japanese troops since World War II. Some opposition legislators suggested after renewed outbreaks of fighting between Cambodian Government forces and Khmer Rouge guerrillas that the corps should be withdrawn.

Asked by reporters about the prospects for Japan's participation in Mozambique peacekeeping efforts, Miyazawa replied "I think I will leave this to the chief cabinet secretary." Kono told a regularly scheduled news conference on Tuesday that the government would make a decision in the near future.

The U.N. has informally asked Japan to supply 50 to 60 troops for transportation coordination and ceasefire monitor duties to the mission.

Indicates SDF Not To Be Sent

OW2302135993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1348 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—Japan will not send Self-Defense Forces (SDF) to Mozambique for U.N.-initiated peacekeeping operations, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono indicated Tuesday.

In a meeting with Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs Barbara McDougall, government officials related, Kono expressed the government's intention

to concentrate on peacekeeping efforts in Cambodia for the time being. "Japan is experiencing its first peacekeeping activities in Cambodia.... It wants to take advantage of the experience for further moves," Kono, acting foreign minister, reportedly told McDougall.

McDougall expressed hopes of Japan's positive participation in peacekeeping operations, noting the importance of enlarged peace efforts for world stability, the officials said. The United Nations has promised to send 7,500 troops to the African nation in a peacekeeping mission that is due to start this month.

The dispatch last fall of a 600-member Ground Self-Defense Force Engineer Corps to Cambodia was the first overseas deployment of Japanese ground troops since World War II.

Asked by reporters about the prospects for Japan's participation in Mozambique peacekeeping efforts, Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa replied, "I think I will leave this to the chief cabinet secretary."

Canada's McDougall Stresses Aid for Russia

OW2302144493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1317 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—Canada's foreign minister voiced support Tuesday for Japan's territorial claims on Russia but said Western aid is vital if Russia is to consolidate its democratic and market-based reforms, Foreign Ministry officials said.

They said Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs Barbara McDougall made the point during talks with acting Foreign Minister Yohei Kono, Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada and other officials. She arrived in Tokyo on Monday for a four-day visit.

In a series of meetings with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and other Japanese Government leaders, McDougall agreed that the Tokyo economic summit of the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrialized countries should discuss specific steps to help Russia.

Miyazawa told her that he will consider visiting Canada after an expected trip to the United States in early April, Japanese Government sources said.

In an hourlong talk with Owada, McDougall said Russian President Boris Yeltsin faces great political and economic difficulties and desperately needs the support of countries like Japan and Canada. Owada responded that Japan anticipates in-depth discussion in advance of the Tokyo summit the changes in Russia and aid needed to help that transformation.

McDougall also spent an hour with Kono and was supportive of Japan's position on the return of four islands off Hokkaido that were seized by Soviet troops at the end of World War II. But McDougall was less definitive in a speech in Vancouver last Friday [19 February], saying only that Canada has been "supportive of the Japanese imperative to resolve the territorial dispute."

Apparently suggesting that Japan could do more for Russia, she said the danger posed by instability there dictates that the international community "cannot stand aside at this sensitive moment." Japan has linked full-scale assistance to Russia to an expression of willingness on Moscow's part to return all four disputed islands.

Officials said McDougall told Kono that a resolution in Japan's favor is the logical outcome if Yeltsin follows his self-proclaimed aim of a foreign policy based on the principles of law and justice.

On the issue of UN peacekeeping, Kono, who is filling in for ailing Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, was quoted as saying Japan is still in a learning stage with its maiden mission now underway in Cambodia. He predicted that Japan will be able to more actively take part in future based on lessons learned from its Cambodia experience.

Officials said McDougall expressed hope that the Japanese public comes to view Tokyo's role in UN peacekeeping with pride after the Cambodia episode, just as Canadians are proud to be footing a disproportional 10 percent of all peacekeeping duties.

Canada Urges Inviting Yeltsin to G-7 Summit

OW2302064893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0620 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—Canada wants Russian President Boris Yeltsin to be invited to Group of Seven (G-7) summit meeting in Tokyo in July, Canadian Cabinet Minister Barbara McDougall told Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Tuesday. McDougall, secretary for external affairs, told Miyazawa that if the embattled Russian leader were invited to meet with leaders of the seven major industrialized countries, it would "hopefully take some pressure off him" at home, a Foreign Ministry official said.

The Canadian minister, who met Yeltsin earlier this month in Moscow, was quoted saying he is facing substantial disorder domestically. She said maintaining the stability of Russia is in the interests of the international community. Yeltsin is facing a major challenge from Russian parliament speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov, who called at the weekend for the president's powers to be reduced.

Miyazawa said it is important to find ways to support Russia, and that he would like to discuss the matter at the July 7-9 Tokyo summit, the official said.

Miyazawa did not mention whether, as host, he would also ask Yeltsin to attend a special "G-7 plus 1" session like the one held at last year's annual economic summit in Munich, the official said. But he thanked Canada for

its early backing of Japan's call for a solution to a territorial dispute with Russia that dates back to World War II, the official said.

Japan is seeking the return of four islands off Hokkaido seized by the Soviet Union at the close of the war, and has said it cannot provide large-scale aid until the dispute is resolved.

In the hourlong meeting, Miyazawa told McDougall he would like to accept an invitation to visit Canada. Foreign Ministry officials are seeking to schedule a visit to Canada after Miyazawa's trip to the United States, which is being tentatively planned for April.

Miyazawa and McDougall also agreed to follow up on a report by a blue-ribbon panel submitted to the two governments last December urging Canadian businesses to be more aggressive in economic relations with Japan. Other topics discussed included prospects for U.S. congressional approval of the North American Free Trade Agreement, and peacekeeping arrangements in Cambodia.

McDougall, who arrived in Tokyo on Monday on a four-day visit, will later visit Hong Kong, Thailand and Cambodia.

Sobchak 'Doubts' Barring of Flight to DPRK

OW2302111193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1048 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—A former adviser to Russian President Boris Yeltsin denied a report Tuesday that Russia blocked a group of nuclear arms specialists from flying from Moscow to North Korea. St. Petersburg Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak, currently in Tokyo at the invitation of the government, said he doubts the credibility of the report by ITAR-TASS news agency.

On February 9, the agency reported that the scientists were stopped at Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport last October. "If such a thing had occurred, I would have obtained the information as I am a member of the Russian Presidential Office's Political Consultative Council," Sobchak told reporters at the Japan National Press Club.

The report quoted Valeriy Tretyakov, security ministry chief in Chelyabinsk in the Ural region, as saying Russia also expelled two North Korean diplomats after preventing the scientists from boarding the flight to North Korea. It said a group of 10 nuclear scientists have already traveled to North Korea to convince themselves that the North Korean nuclear arms project is serious.

They reportedly organized more scientists into their group after temporarily returning from North Korea to Miass near Chelyabinsk. Chelyabinsk, located in the Ural region east of Moscow, is a center for Russian nuclear weapons development program and it features a noted laboratory code-named Chelyabinsk-70.

The ITAR-TASS report said the group has expanded to "more than 30" by last October, when some of the 30 allegedly tried to depart for North Korea. Sobchak said he cannot believe so many scientists would try to hand over their nuclear weapons know-how "together and simultaneously."

The International Atomic Energy Agency says it suspects North Korea is developing plutonium bombs on the basis of satellite photograph analysis.

He partially confirmed the validity of another ITAR-TASS dispatch saying Russia's Ministry of Security took legal action against one of two scientists who reportedly leaked confidential intelligence on Russia's alleged chemical weapons development program. "I heard the news that the Ministry of Security announced it asked the Prosecutor General's Office to try the scientist on a charge of leaking state secrets," Sobchak said.

The ITAR-TASS dispatch September 23 said the ministry arrested scientist Vil Mirzayanov, who allegedly disclosed information about Russia's chemical arms program along with his friend Lev Fyodrov [spelling of names as received]. The two reportedly contributed an expose published by the prestigious Russian weekly news magazine MOSCOW NEWS.

The September 20 edition of the reformist magazine quoted Mirzayanov and Fyodrov in the expose as saying the Russian military tested its powerful chemical weapons in early 1992. Mirzayanov, a department head at Russia's Research Institute of Chemical Technologies, said in the expose that Russia developed and produced "a new binary weapon" in breach of an accord it signed with the United States to ban development of such weapons of mass destruction.

Nagasaki Plans To Aid Korean A-Bomb Victims

OW2302081993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0738 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Nagasaki, Feb. 23 KYODO—The city of Nagasaki said Tuesday it will budget to help Korean survivors of the atomic bombing of 1945 so they are eligible for government-sponsored treatment in Japan.

Municipal officials said the city's budget for fiscal 1993 will include 2 million yen to cover projects such as providing information about issuing certificates for atomic bomb survivors. The measures are aimed at Koreans who have returned home. Holders of such certificates are eligible for medical treatment sponsored by the Japanese Government.

Under the project, Nagasaki city staff will visit South Korea to explain procedures for getting the certificates, the municipal officials said.

According to the Association of Korean Atomic Bomb Victims, about 150 of its 2,300 members were exposed to

the August 9, 1945 atomic bombing of Nagasaki. An estimated 70,000 people, including Koreans, were killed in the blast.

Historians estimate that between 70,000 to 100,000 Koreans, many of them brought to Japan against their will as laborers, were caught in the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. About 30,000 to 50,000 were killed and between 23,000 to 43,000 who survived returned to Korea after the war, they say.

Last October, Nagasaki Mayor Hitoshi Motoshima visited South Korea and vowed that his city will take measures to help the Korean victims. He went to Seoul at the invitation of the Korean Red Cross Society which wanted him to see for himself how Korean A-bomb survivors lived.

Motoshima was the first mayor from either Hiroshima or Nagasaki to visit South Korea for the purpose of meeting survivors.

German TV Comedy's 'Racist Expressions' Draw Criticism

OW2302104893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1022 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—A German television character's racist expressions about Japanese were in bad taste and could adversely affect bilateral ties, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Tuesday. "We should be attentive to whatever moves or tendencies which might affect the mutual confidence between the business and other sectors of our two countries," Sadaaki Numata said in a meeting with foreign correspondents.

Numata was speaking about an episode of the satirical comedy "Motzki" aired by a German Public Broadcasting Corporation February 16, in which the bigoted main character of the same name reportedly described Japanese as "yellow monkeys" and "slit-eyed devils." "I don't see these words or jokes as being in very good taste," the spokesman said when questioned about the matter by German television reporters.

Motzki, whose name is similar to the German word for a grumbler, is a cantankerous old man who also rails against other foreigners and especially East Germans. The controversial show has outraged some Germans from both east and west, but is immensely popular.

Praising the participation of hundreds of thousands of Germans in rallies against racial prejudice, Numata said, "Our job is to see to it that good sense prevails in both our countries."

The YOMIURI SHIMBUN, Japan's largest daily, reported last Wednesday that negative perceptions of Japanese are growing in Germany, fueled by economic issues and media reports that perpetuate stereotypes.

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl is scheduled to arrive in Japan Friday for an official visit through Monday.

Ex-Im Bank To Extend Untied Loans to Czechs

OW2302132793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1304 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—The Export-Import [Ex-Im] Bank of Japan announced Tuesday the signing of an untied two-step loan agreement with the Czech National Bank, involving an aggregate amount of up to 8.71 billion yen.

It is the first such loan extended to the Czech Republic since its separation from Slovakia on January 1, the governmental bank said.

In accordance with a recent Japan-U.S. initiative on assisting Central and Eastern Europe, the loan aims to support the development of the Czech private sector, particularly smaller enterprises, in cooperation with the American enterprise fund when suitable, the bank said.

During the visit by former U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle to Japan last May, the Japanese Government announced its intention to extend financial support amounting to 300 million dollars to countries in Central and Eastern Europe to further cooperation with the United States in aiding these countries.

Zendentsu Urges New Political Forces Links

OW2302100793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0904 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—The All-Japan Telecommunication Workers' Union (Zendentsu) adopted a policy Tuesday to link up with newly-established political parties and groups to accelerate Japan's political reorganization.

At a meeting of its central committee, Zendentsu Chairman Hisaji Sonogi pledged to call together forces opposing the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), mentioning the names of the opposition political study group Sirius, the Heiseiishin-no-kai (Reform Of Heisei Group) and the Japan New Party.

"The split of the LDP's once-largest Takeshita faction and the establishment of the Japan New Party confirm the political reorganization trend," Zendentsu Secretary General Masayuki Kojima said.

The 240,000-strong labor union of Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. decided to postpone announcement of candidates selected from the largest opposition party, the Socialist Democratic Party [of Japan] (SDP) [SDPJ], for support in the next general election. Kicking off labor's spring offensive, Sonogi said that the union will demand a 25,000 yen, or 8 percent, increase in monthly wages and initiate strike actions from March 25 if its demands are not met.

Speaking as a guest, Democratic Socialist Party Secretary General Takashi Yonezawa told the meeting the centrist

party is closely watching the LDP's Hata faction and the SDP as they are likely to play key roles in any possible political reorganization.

Also speaking as a guest, Akira Yamagishi, president of Japan's largest trade union grouping, the Japan Trade Union Confederation (Rengo), urged opposition parties to pressure the government to cut income taxes in the current Diet debate on the fiscal 1993 budget.

Hirotaka Akamatsu, the SDP secretary general, said his party is watching for the right moment to introduce a resolution calling for the resignation of former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita from his parliamentary seat.

Takeshita has been under pressure to resign from the Diet over his alleged involvement in the money-mobster Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal, which has been rocking the Japanese political world recently and brought on the split in the Takeshita faction. The defectors formed the Hata faction, named after former Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata but led in fact by former LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa.

Opposition To Present Joint FY93 Budget Plan

OW2302062793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0500 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—Three opposition parties decided Tuesday to jointly present their own proposale for the fiscal 1993 budget to the Diet, calling for income tax cuts, opposition sources said.

The Social Democratic Party (SDP), the biggest opposition party, Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) made the decision at a meeting of chairmen of their Diet affairs committees.

The three parties will present their budget proposals to the board of directors of the House of Representatives Budget Committee on Tuesday afternoon, the sources said.

Their budget bill features an income tax reduction of 3.8 trillion yen and other tax cuts of about 460 billion yen through various policy measures.

Under the plan, taxpayers would receive a total of 2.8 trillion yen in rebates and 1 trillion yen in year-end refunds through institutional revisions.

The opposition forces will present the tax cut demand to the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) at a meeting of Diet affairs committee chairmen Wednesday morning, the sources said.

Although some LDP members have joined the opposition chorus calling for some tax reduction, the ruling party is unlikely to agree to tax cuts in the fiscal 1993 budget bill, which it wants to get through the Diet as quickly as possible, LDP sources said.

Instead, tax cuts are likely to be implemented in a supplementary budget later, the sources said.

The LDP hope the budget bill will pass the lower house budget committee and the full lower house by March 2, the sources said.

The annual budget bill usually fails to meet the April 1—start of the fiscal year—deadline due to opposition resistance in connection with other key political issues.

Steel Industry Urges More Pump-Priming Steps

OW2202044293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0356 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 22 KYODO—Japan's steel industry called Monday for a reduction in income, housing, and capital spending taxes as additional pump-priming measures to jolt the ailing economy, officials said.

Business executives of the Japan Iron and Steel Federation conveyed the request during a morning gathering with Yoshiro Mori, head of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), the MITI officials said. Mori responded by saying further study is needed before it is known if an income tax cut would really help stimulate individual consumption and create demand, they said.

The steel industry also sought the Diet's early approval of the budget bill for fiscal 1993 and front-loading of public works projects with the government's view of a five-year plan for improved standards of living, they said. The officials quoted Mori as saying that the government is continuing to do its best to pass the fiscal 1993 budget bill by the end of March.

Asked for a sweeping review of a land value tax, including abolition of the tax, Mori expressed understanding by saying, "We will review it in tax reform for fiscal 1994."

Regarding the U.S. Commerce Department's preliminary decision on antidumping charges against steel imports, the federation executives said they will continue to fight charges that steel imports from Japan have damaged the U.S. industry, the officials said.

Witnesses Differ Over Income Tax Increases

OW2302100593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0906 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—Three witnesses summoned to a Diet hearing on economic strategy were at odds Tuesday over income tax cuts as a government measure to stimulate the economy.

Kenzo Hishi, chairman of the National Federation of Tradesmen and Manufacturers Associations, said income tax cuts should be implemented immediately. But Professors Haruo Shimada of Keio University and Ryuichiro Tate of Aoyama Gakuin University urged caution.

They were called to the final session of a two-day hearing held by the House of Representatives Budget Committee to discuss ways of propping up the flagging domestic economy.

Hishi urged the government to cut income taxes and exempt foodstuffs from the 3 percent consumption tax. He said small enterprises are hit hard by the current economic slump. Tate believed small tax cuts will not help expand personal consumption while Shimada called for tax cuts and a hike of the consumption tax rate as part of a tax system reform.

Keidanren Urges Less Business Regulation

OW2302101593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0910 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—Japan's most powerful business group unveiled Tuesday a package of administrative reform proposals primarily urging the government to halve in 10 years the 10,000 provisions in place for approving business proposals.

Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) package, drafted by its committee on administrative reform, will soon be submitted to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa. The proposal for fewer administrative regulations is aimed at an advisory panel to the prime minister—the Provisional Council on Promotion of Administrative Reform—which is scheduled to draw up a final report on the government's role this fall.

The Keidanren committee suggests the abolition of two regulations for every new one that is introduced, and calls for consultation with the business sector when making government ordinances.

The committee also wants to amend the cabinet act to give more power to the prime minister and reduce the number of career bureaucrats. It said recruitment of bureaucrats is on the rise—their numbers are estimated to increase by 107 over the next six years—despite a declining number of public servants overall.

Vehicle Production Below 1992 Level

OW2302061093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0539 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—Japan's production of cars, trucks and buses, including minivehicles, totaled 893,909 vehicles in January, down 13.5 percent from a year earlier and the sharpest fall in over 17 years, an industry association reported Tuesday.

The Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association said production of passenger cars in January declined 12.1 percent from a year earlier to 673,564, posting the fourth straight month of year-on-year decline. Production of trucks fell 17.7 percent to 216,541, while output of buses declined 2.7 percent to 3,804.

The association said the year-on-year fall in January was sharpest since August 1974, when a 16.3 percent drop was recorded.

Exports declined an estimated 3.0 percent from a year earlier, the association said. Domestic demand for cars, trucks, and buses in January plummeted 11.2 percent from a year earlier to 371,210 vehicles, recording the 21st straight month of year-on-year decline, the association said.

Domestic demand for passenger cars shrank for the 23rd straight month, declining 9.9 percent to 235,325. Domestic demand for trucks fell 13.1 percent to 135,101, the association said.

The association said the January figures brought the accumulated production since the beginning of fiscal 1992 in April to 10,127,627 vehicles, down 7.2 percent.

Of this, passenger cars accounted for 7,620,591, down 5.4 percent. Production of trucks in the period was down 12.8 percent at 2,463,925, while output of buses dropped 14.7 percent to 43,111.

LDP Official: Watanabe in 'Good Condition'

OW2202063193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0619 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 22 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Monday he received a phone call Sunday from Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe about the foreign minister's medical condition. "He appeared to have become bored. His temperature is down and he gained about two kilograms," Miyazawa told reporters.

Watanabe was admitted to the Tokyo Women's Medical College Hospital on February 15 after returning from a trip to the United States. Aides said he was suffering from a cold and fatigue.

Koko Sato, chairman of the ruling Executive Council of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), told a top-level meeting of government and LDP officials Monday that Watanabe was in good condition when visited at the hospital by Sato on Sunday. Sato, a member of the LDP's Watanabe faction, quoted the foreign minister as saying that he is ready to leave the hospital.

"I will remain in hospital until I fully recover," Sato quoted Watanabe as saying. Watanabe also said he may commute to the Foreign Ministry from hospital.

In May 1992, Watanabe was admitted to the same hospital, where he was treated for gallstones and an infected bile duct. He resumed his duties as foreign minister after an absence of 40 days.

Watanabe To Remain in Hospital Until 27 Feb

OW2302105393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1024 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 23 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, forced by illness to quit a parliamen

tary session last week, said Tuesday he will remain hospitalized at least until Saturday.

In a statement issued by the Foreign Ministry, Watanabe said he will decide whether to leave the hospital "in view of my condition after taking a good rest until the end of this week."

North Korea

Reaction to IAEA Inspection Request Reported

Request 'Formally' Rejected by DPRK

SK2302004093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0032 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Vienna, Feb. 22 (YONHAP)—North Korea formally rejected Monday the International Atomic Energy Agency's [IAEA] request to hold special inspections on two unreported installations in its Yongbyon nuclear complex, North of Pyongyang.

Roving Ambassador Kim Gye-gwan told a meeting of the IAEA Board of Governors that the two installations were military facilities that had nothing to do with nuclear activities.

The IAEA request to visit those installations was therefore unreasonable and North Korea would never accept special inspections, he said.

Kim also said discrepancies between North Korean reports and the outcome of IAEA inspections resulted from North Korea's indigenous nuclear development and could be cleared up through scientific discussions between the two sides.

But a majority of board members, including South Korea, the United States and Japan, said that the IAEA request for special inspections was reasonable and urged North Korea to comply with the request.

A number of major board-member countries is expected to table a resolution Tuesday to formally urge North Korea to accept the special inspection.

The resolution, which would include a warning against North Korea for followup measures, is expected to be adopted by the IAEA board on Thursday, sources said.

Earlier, IAEA Director-General Hans Blix told the board meeting that the IAEA had to carry out special inspections on the two suspected nuclear facilities at any cost.

Numerous questions emerged since the IAEA began inspecting North Korea's nuclear facilities, Blix said. The IAEA had given North Korea every opportunity to explain, but the main questions were still unanswered. He said the two installations that North Korea insists are military bases have been "analyzed" as being nuclear waste processing facilities through satellite pictures.

IAEA believes North Korea has conducted nuclear waste reprocessing more than three times, sources said. If North Korea had conducted reprocessing so many times, it could be in possession of far more plutonium than it has reported to the IAEA, they said.

DPRK Envoy: Inspection 'Endangered'

SK2302040693 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0300 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] While the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] began a meeting regarding North Korea's rejection of nuclear inspections, a North Korean high-ranking official threatened on 22 February that North Korea may abrogate the nuclear safeguards agreement, which allows access to nuclear facilities by international inspection teams, if the IAEA insists on conducting a special inspection of the two different facilities in Yongbyon.

DPRK Representative to Geneva Yi Chol said in a news conference with REUTERS NEWS AGENCY that the safeguards agreement signed in 1992 is endangered by friction with the IAEA. Yi Chol added that it is quite natural for North Korea to take a self-defensive action because the IAEA blocks the possibility of dialogue and negotiations in a forcible manner.

IAEA: DPRK Response 'Not Satisfactory'

SK2202234393 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2200 GMT 22 Feb 93

[By reporter Cha Man-sun in Vienna]

[Text] It appears that the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] board countries will adopt a resolution urging a special nuclear inspection of North Korea.

IAEA Director General Hans Blix revealed in a closed regular Board of Governors meeting held on 22 February that although all measures, including demands for a special inspection, have been taken to unveil suspicions about North Korea's nuclear development, North Korea's reactions to those measures are not satisfactory yet.

Director-General Blix said that analysis of satellite photographs provided by the outside reveals that two different facilities in Yongbyon are estimated to be designed as nuclear waste disposal sites.

Following yesterday's discussion, the IAEA will continue to discuss North Korea's nuclear issue today. If North Korea does not accept IAEA's demand again, however, it will adopt a resolution urging special inspection around 25 February.

DPRK Envoy in PRC Discusses Issue

SK2302012893 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0900 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Text] DPRK missions in China, Russia, Guinea, Ghana, and Libya held news conferences from 9 to 15

February. Reporters from the paper, press, and broadcasting of each countries and correspondents from various countries participated in the news conferences.

Our country's ambassadors, charge d'affaires ad interim, and counselors made remarks at the news conferences. They said that for the United States to demand inspection of military sites is in connection with its wrong policy toward us which infringes upon our independence. They also emphasized that trying to make the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] intervene is a very serious military and political issue.

They exposed the unreasonableness of the IAEA's special inspection, and said that talking about conducting special inspection on us and so on is to continue to maintain U.S. troops and nuclear bases in South Korea under the pretext of suspicions of our nuclear weapons and to put pressure on us so that we will give in to the inspection. They also opposed and denounced the Team Spirit joint military exercise, and talked about our position demanding its suspension. They gave answers to questions by reporters.

Envoy in Cuba Discusses Issue

SK2302012793 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0800 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Text] DPRK missions in Cuba, Pakistan, and Nicaragua held news conferences from 13 to 17 February in connection with the nuclear inspection issue. Reporters from the paper, press, and broadcasting of each countries participated in the news conferences.

Our country's ambassadors made remarks at the news conferences. They said that even though it was confirmed through the irregular [pijonggi] inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] that our country has neither the intention nor the ability to develop nuclear weapons, the United States unsuccessfully pursued its insidious purpose to spy on our military sites and bases through the mutual inspection. They said that therefore the United States is maneuvering to achieve this through the IAEA.

They exposed the unreasonableness of the imperialists' maneuver to enforce special inspection, and said that military sites have no relations with sites for inspection. They said that trying to conduct inspection on sites through information provided by a third country has no legal ground in view of the regulations of the IAEA or the nuclear safeguards accord.

They strongly denounced the maneuver of the United States to resolve the nuclear issue through strength, and expressed the firm belief that all the countries will send active support and solidarity to our just position. Answers were given on questions by reporters at the news conferences.

Radio Urges ROK 'Discretion'

SK2302030293 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0954 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Unattributed talk: "The South Korean Authorities Should Act With Discretion"]

[Text] The South Korean authorities froze the works of the Joint Nuclear Control Committee [JNCC] by proclaiming to hold the aggressive Team Spirit-93 nuclear war exercise with the United States. Currently, they are moving toward a more grave road of treachery and crime.

As was already known, after the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise was proclaimed, some strata in the United States hastily spread false rumors that there are sites that we did not inform the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] about, thus linking it with our military sites. At a time when the IAEA Board of Governor's meeting is slated for February, the IAEA is suddenly attempting to force us to receive some kind of special inspection.

As if they had been waiting for this, the South Korean authorities at last held an emergency meeting of relevant government offices including Chongwadae [presidential residence], the Foreign Ministry, and the Ministry of the Board of National Unification. They expressed active response for this kind of inspection. Moreover, the so-called prime minister and defense minister raised a commotion at the National Assembly by saying that a special delegation will be dispatched to the IAEA Board of Governor's meeting and so on.

It is completely unreasonable for the IAEA to raise the issue of conducting special inspection on us. This is because some strata of the agency are trying to disarm us by even expanding the agency's inspection to our country's military bases that have no relation with nuclear activities. This is following the false information provided by the United States and its pressure.

Originally, the IAEA has no right to use information provided by any certain country to conduct irregular [pijonggi] inspections or special inspections. This is an important principle of this agency. Nevertheless, the United States provided false information to the IAEA, thus making this agency violate its regulations and the safeguards accord concluded between the agency and us, and is even instigating the special inspection on us. Here lies a very insidious military and political purpose.

The United States raised our so-called nuclear issue which does not even exist. It is well known that this stems from the purpose to suffocate our socialism. However in the process of the IAEA's irregular inspection, the innocence of our nuclear policy was all the more proven. Because there is no excuse to suffocate us, the United States once again fabricated the special inspection and is revealing its insidious purpose to expand our nuclear issue step by step.

If it is unjustly decided to conduct the special inspection on us at the IAEA Board of Governor's meeting—as the United States is initiating—it is clear as fire what kind of grave consequences it will bring about.

The commotion of conducting the special inspection on us is a product of the big powers' scheme to gain the third party's profit at the price of sacrificing our nation. The Korean nation should not become victims of the big powers by being toyed by them.

When considering the fact that the provocative Team Spirit-93 nuclear war exercise is being carried out throughout South Korea, if some kind of special inspection or sanctions are forced upon us and our sacred nation is infringed upon by big powers, it is needless to say that this will touch off the whole nation into a terrible disaster regardless of the North or South.

Therefore, the broad people at home and abroad are expressing deep worry over the gave consequences the commotion of the new special inspection will bring about which is being enforced under the manipulation of the U.S. imperialists. This is by no means a coincidence. Nevertheless, the South Korean authorities are running amok in the fore'ront of the extremely dangerous special inspection comn.otion which will result in a very grave consequence in our country. This is ultimately to follow outside forces to cause another war in our country and make our nation a victim of the big powers. This is an intolerable treacherous and nation-selling act.

All acts by the South Korean ruling bunch show that they are trying to realize their insidious purpose regarding the nuclear issue—which must be resolved by fellow countrymen—by forcing something to the other side through conspiracy with outside forces. Therefore, they dissolved the North-South JNCC itself; completely cut off the North-South inspection to verify denuclearization; and furthermore one-sidely nullified the Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. We can be no means remain as an idle spectator on this matter.

If the South Korean ruling bunch do not throw away their chronic nature as a nation-seller and as long as they are sacrificing the nation's interest by conspiring with outside forces, they will have to be responsible for all consequences arising therefrom. History and nation will by no means forgive those betraying the fellow countrymen.

The South Korean authorities should correctly look at the miserable last days of the traitors who made the country and nation victims of the big powers by doing nothing but treacherous acts through the support of outside forces, and act with discretion.

Our people will by no means allow anyone to trample on our nation's dignity and infringe upon the country's life which is sovereign rights. This is not empty talk. The reactionaries at home and abroad should be correctly aware of this.

Paper: ROK Had 1979 Nuclear Capacity

SK2302101293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0609 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 22 (KCNA)—The Japanese MAINICHI SHIMBUN February 21 reported that South Korea had acquired nearly full capacity to develop nuclear weapons by the time when Pak Chong-hui was assassinated in 1979.

The paper disclosed that Pak Chong-hui was planning to announce the completion of the development of nuclear weapons, "resigning" from the "presidential" post in 1981.

The fact shows that the South Korean authorities had actively pressed ahead with the development of nuclear weapons from long ago.

Daily: ROK Poses Nuclear Threat

SK2302113993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1053 GMT 23 Feb 93

["Nuclear Threat Comes From South"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 23 (KCNA)—"The nuclear threat" on the Korean peninsula is coming from South Korea where U.S. nuclear weapons are deployed and which is growing its own nuclear "mushrooms" with U.S. assistance, declares NODONG SINMUN today.

It notes in a bylined article: "The United States and the South Korean authorities are advertising the fiction of 'nuclear development' by the North, raising terrific outcries over it. This is a deliberate act to justify the policy of turning South Korea into a nuclear base and the nuclear development by South Korea itself which has entered a dangerous stage and speed up the preparations for a nuclear war.

"The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities declared 'absence of nuclear weapons' and 'withdrawal of tactical nuclear weapons' from South Korea. But South Korea still remains the biggest nuclear base in the Far East where the U.S. nuclear weapons are densely deployed.

"In the middle of the 1970s, the U.S. imperialists introduced more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons into South Korea. They even brought the neutron bombs called 'devil's weapon of the 20th century' and 'Pershing-2' medium-range nuclear missiles and built underground nuclear arms stores and nuclear bases everywhere in South Korea.

"The declaration of 'absence of nuclear weapons' and 'withdrawal of tactical nuclear weapons' was a mere drama played by the United States and the South Korean authorities out of necessity. Evidences of this have been revealed one after another.

"Besides the presence of U.S. nuclear weapons and bases in South Korea, it must not go unnoticed that the nuclear development hastened by the South Korean authorities under the U.S. 'nuclear umbrella' has entered a dangerous phase. As was exposed recently, South Korea has nearly 30 year-long history of nuclear development. South Korea's nuclear development that entered the practical stage at the end of the 1960s, has been accelerated at a rapid pace by the successive military fascist 'regimes' to reach the stage of completion.

"The United States and the South Korean authorities are crying over 'nuclear threat' by the North and for a 'special inspection' and 'sanctions' while themselves stockpiling nuclear weapons, hastening nuclear development and staging even nuclear war exercises. This is motivated by a criminal plot to isolate and stifle our republic which is making a vigorous advance toward socialism."

Northerners Urge South To Allow Yi In-mo Return

SK2002062093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0511 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 20 (KCNA)—Men of various social circles in the northern half of Korea are strongly demanding that the South Korean authorities take an urgent measure for sending back old man Yi In-mo, a former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army, to the North side for medical treatment, upon hearing the news that he is in a critical condition with malignant pneumonia.

Cho Song-hui, chairman of Sosong district, Pyongyang, Administrative and Economic Committee, said:

"Old man Yi In-mo who has devoted his whole life to national reunification and national independence is now in a critical condition with a serious disease, kept from being repatriated to his native place in the northern half of the country. This is a result of the inhumane act of the South Korean authorities.

"It is an anti-national crime that the South Korean authorities kept in prison Yi In-mo for 34 yars, who had engaged himself only in just activities for the country and it is an unpardonable inhumane act that they exposed his life to danger, ignoring our just proposal and the demand of his family for his repatriation. "To send him back at this critical moment is a matter which brooks no further delay. The South Korean authoriies, though belatedly, must send him back to our side for his medical treatment."

Pak Su-ryong, section chief of the Korean Red Cross Hospital, said: "It is an urgent matter that must not be delayed any longer to send old man Yi In-mo back to the northern half of the country where his wife and daughter are waiting for him as he is in a very critical condition and he has no kinsman in South Korea.

"If he is repatriated to the northern half of the country, his malignant pneumonia and other diseases caused by his 3 years of prison life can be completely cured.

"If the South Korean rulers continue to detain him, turning a deaf ear to our demand and an irretrievable misfortune befall him, they will invite stronger condemnation and hatred from the whole nation and the progressve people of the world."

KCNA: U.S. Planes Brought to ROK for Exercise

SK2302050393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0415 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 23 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists brought nuclear-capable fighter-bombers, pursuit-assault planes and VTOL assault planes based in Yokota, Iwakuni and Okinawa, Japan, to U.S. Air Force bases in South Korea on Feb. 20 and 21 prior to the full-dress stage of the "Team Spirit 93" joint military maneuvers, military sources said.

Fleet flying corps and Marines flying corps of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces flew to South Korea from their bases in Japan and the Pacific on Feb. 21 for an exercise in the skies above Tanyang, Hoengsong and Tangjin to familiarize themselves with the course of flight and geographical features of South Korea.

The U.S. imperialists sent large transport planes loaded with aggression troops and war supplies to their airforce bases in South Korea from the U.S. mainland and pacific bases on Feb. 20 and 21. The aggression troops airlifted on Feb. 21 were deployed on the front and in operational areas according to the plan of the"Team Spirit 93".

Korean Youth in Japan Leader Addresses LSWYK

SK2002082193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0541 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 20 (KCNA)—Pak Ku-ho, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the League of Korean Youth in Japan (LKYJ) and head of the congratulatory group of the LKYJ, made a speech at the second-day session of the 8th congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea (LSWYK).

He said:

"The dear leader marshal Kim Chong-il personally summoned us to this historic congress. This is the highest glory bestowed upon the entire members of the LKYJ and young people in Japan and an expression of deep trust and high expectation for the Korean youth overseas.

"Our homeland which has solved the youth problem ideally at a time when many countries in the world are puzzling over it the prospect of the nation and its destiny is soaring high and shining on the earth as a powerful country of ideology and bulwark of socialism pushing ahead with the socialist cause in the van.

"The young people of the homeland have become loyal ranks of millions strong enough to build any monument of creation and defeat any enemy force a million strong. It is because the youth movement is guided the dear leader marshal Kim Chong-il who has brought up the young people to be a dependable vanguard, from the roots of the youth movement started by the great leader generalissimo Kim Il-song, warmly embraces the youth with his benevolent virtues and magnanimous politics and rouses them to heroic feats.

He declared that the ranks of the LKYJ had become a loyal wall and a raging river following the dear leader in the rigorous land of Japan like the young vanguard in the homeland, and were vigorously advancing joining their minds with the youth in homeland on the road of patriotism and chuche.

Stating that it was the faith of loyalty and patriotism of the LKYJ to defend and glorify the socialist homeland following the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, he said:

No allurement, plot and pressure of the imperialist reactionaries to block the powerful march of the Korean youth movement in Japan which is advancing, led by the guiding hand, can subordinate our young people.

"We will firmly build the organisation of the LKYJ as an overseas youth organisation following only the dear leader and the young unit of chuche type upholding the sun of guidance overseas.

"We will devote all our youthful strength and zeal to decisively smash the pressure and blockade of the imperialist reactionaries, firmly defend the socialist homeland and exalt it as a country of human ideal.

Kim Il-song Writes Korean Intellectuals in Japan

SK2102104093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0809 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 21 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today sent a message of greetings to the meeting of Korean intellectuals in Japan.

The message says:

Korean intellectuals in Japan have stoutly traversed the sacred road of patriotism, upholding the intellectual policy of our republic and performed shining feats for the homeland and the nation by devoting all their wisdom and talents since the formation of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon).

Korean intellectuals in Japan have actively conducted ideological and cultural activities among Chongnyon officials and Koreans in Japan so that they might cherish the chuche idea and the spirit of national independence as a patriotic faith and reared the younger generation to be proud Koreans so that they could defend our nation and firmly ensure the continuity of the patriotic movement.

Korean intellectuals in Japan have devoted all the scientific and technical knowledge they acquired throughout their life to the wealth and development of the homeland and the prosperity of the nation.

It is associated with the noble patriotic spirit and devoted efforts of the Korean intellectuals in Japan that Chongnyon has grown to be a powerful overseas compatriotic organisation of chuche and the patriotic movement of Chongnyon has become a brilliant model of the overseas compatriotic movement in the world.

Chongnyon and Koreans in Japan are faced with an important task to establish the ideological system and leadership system of chuche more firmly within the organisation and make new progress in all fields of patriotic work in step with the vigorous advance of the people at home under the banner of socialism.

Korean intellectuals in Japan are the major component of the creditable patriotic forces of Chongnyon and the pioneer of the compatriots.

Korean intellecuals in Japan should cherish loyalty to the homeland and the people as a faith and obligation and actively contribute to the patriotic work of Chongnyon and the socialist construction of the homeland with all their creative talents and wisdom, deeply conscious of their noble mission for the times and the nation.

Korean intellectuals in Japan should strengthen unity with the South Korean intellectuals and overseas Korean intellectuals, steadily increase the patriotic forces for reunification and wage an active struggle to achieve national reunification by means of confederacy on the principle of national independence.

They should further strengthen friendship and international solidarity with the progressive intellectuals of Japan and other countries of the world so as to stir up support to and sympathy with our revolutionary cause.

DPRK Envoy Meets Yugoslav President

SK2302011793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2321 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 22 (KCNA)—Yugoslavia will actively support the DPRK Government's efforts to defend the national independence and achieve the peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula and its proposal of reunification through confederacy in the future, too, said Dobrica Cosic, president of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, when he received the Korean ambassador on February 15.

Kebby Musokotwane, Chairman of the C.C., United National Independence Party of Zambia, said when he received the Korean ambassador on Feb. 16 that the policy of reunifying Korea on the principle of national independence advanced by the great leader President Kim Il-song in his New Year address was a very just one.

Voicing full support to the Korean-style socialism built under the wise guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, he said the Zambian people would as ever render positive support to the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK Government in the efforts for the victory of the cause of the Korean-style socialism and for national reunification.

Peruvian Defense Minister, Military Delegation Arrive

Delegation Arrives

SK1902134293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1035 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 19 (KCNA)—A military delegation of the Republic of Peru led by Defence Minister Victor Malca Villanueva arrived in Pyongyang today.

It was met at the airport by Minister of People's Armed Forces O Chin-u, Vice Marshal of the Korean People's Army [KPA] Kim Kwang-chin and generals and officers of the KPA.

A ceremony for welcoming the delegation took place at the airport.

O Chin-u Speaks

SK2002063493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0532 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 20 (KCNA)—The Ministry of People's Armed Forces arranged a party for the visiting military delegation of the Republic of Peru at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on February 19.

In his address, O Chin-u, minister of People's Armed Forces, recalled that the Peruvian Government was endeavouring to effect socio-economic changes under the motto "Sincerity, Labour and Technology," intensify the campaign against terrorism and drugs and eliminate the social disorder and bending efforts to bring prosperity to Latin America with joint efforts, establish a new international order, create a nuclear-free, peace zone and realise disarmament.

He extended support and solidarity to the Peruvian people in their struggle to build an independent and prosperous, new Peru.

"The Korean people will fight staunchly to defend world peace against the imperialist moves of aggression and war and build an independent and prosperous, new world, pooling efforts with the peoples of the non-aligned coucntries including Peru and all the peaceloving peoples," O Chin-u declared.

In his address, Peruvian Defence Minister Victor Malca Villanueva conveyed greetings of his excellency president of the Republic of Peru to Generalissimo Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

"Seeing the film on the celebrations of the 60th founding anniversary of the Korean People's Army [KPA], I learned that the KPA is a disciplined and strong army," he said.

He noted that the KPA soldiers had made tremendous achievements not only in military training but also in economic construction.

He expressed the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between Peru and Korea would grow stronger and develop in the interests of the two peoples.

Science-Technology Delegation Returns From Russia

SK2102015193 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Our country's government science-technology delegation led by Yi Cha-pang, chairman of the State Science and Technology Committee, returned home 19 February by plane, from a trip to Russia and Ukraine.

Han Sang-pyo, vice chairman of the State Science and Technology Committee; and Yuriy Fadeyev, the Russian Federation's ambassador to our country, met the delegation at the airport.

Economic Delegation Departs for Cuba

SK2002120693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1100 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 20 (KCNA)—A government economic delegation of the DPRK headed by Yi Song-tae, chairman of the State External Economic Affairs Commission, left here today by air to visit Cuba.

It was seen off by Han Su-kil, vice-chairman of the State External Economic Affairs Commission, and Juan Jose Leon Vega, Cuban Ambassador to Korea.

SPA Delegation Arrives in Syria 18 Feb

SK2202044793 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] On 18 February, a delegation of our country's Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] led by SPA Chairman Yang Hyong-sop arrived in Damascus to visit Syria after departing Amman the same day following a visit in Jordan.

Kim Il-song Greets Saint Lucia Prime Minister

SK2202103293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0633 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 22 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a message of greetings to John George Melvin Compton, prime minister of Saint Lucia, on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of independence of Saint Lucia.

In the message, President Kim Il-song expressed the belief that the friendly relations between the two countries would continue to develop on good terms and wished him and his people greater success in their work for the prosperity of the country.

UK Communist Party Leader Visits

Meets Choe Tae-pok

SK1902141093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1037 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 19 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Communist Party of Greece led by Harilaos Florakis, honorary chairman of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the party, and a delegation of the For Peace and Socialism-the Communist Workers' Party of Finland led by Chairman Timo Lahdenmaki and Michael Hicks, general secretary of the Britannic Communist Party, arrived in Pyongyang today.

The guests were met at the airport by Choe Tae-pok, alternate Politburo member and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], and Kim Hyong-u, vice-director of a department of the C.C., the WPK.

Meets WPK Officials

SK2002074893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0519 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 20 (KCNA)—The Central Commitee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] hosted a reception Friday for Michael Hicks, general secretary of the Britannic Communist Party on a visit to Korea.

Speaking at the reception, secretary Hwang Chang-yop of the C.C., said you have waged to [words indistinct] unity of the party, staunchly adhering to the revolutionary principle and the banner of socialism, upholding the decision of your 14th congress under the difficult situation where the vicious anti-communist, anti-socialist moves of the imperialists and reactionaries have become all the more undisguised and express full support and solidarity to it.

"Our party will as ever make all efforts to make closer the bonds of friendship and unity, support and solidarity with the CPG [Communist Party of Greece] in the common struggle for socialism."

Head of the delegation Kharilaos Florakis, honorary chairman of the C.C., the CPG, said:

"The United States and the South Korean authorities are resorting to vicious moves to stamp out socialism, afraid of the strengthening and development of socialism in Korea.

"But the progressive communist parties of the world hope to see Korea reunified as one and express support and solidarity to the struggle of the Korean people."

Noting that the imperiaists were resorting to heinous moves to become "master" of the world by destroying socialist countries, he said he was happy to have had an opportunity to exchange views with the WPK on a series of problems for the common cause of socialism under this situation.

Cambodian Party Delegation Concludes Visit 20 Feb

SK2202043693 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] The delegation of the National United Front for an Independent, Peaceful, Neutral, and Cooperative Cambodia [FUNCINPEC] Party led by member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council and FUNCINPEC Chairman Prince Norodom Ranariddh left Pyongyang by plane on 20 February after visiting our country.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Comrade Yi Chong-ok, member of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee Political Bureau and vice president; Comrade Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Chi Chae-yong, deputy director of a department of the WPK Central Committee; and Cho Kyu-il, vice minister of Foreign Affairs.

Envoy Presents Credentials to Romanian President

SK2002105593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 20 (KCNA)—Ion Iliescu, President of Romania, receiving credentials from the Korean ambassador, said that Romania has supported and supports the efforts of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people for the reunification of the country.

Husayn the First, King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, said he pays deep attention to the problem of Korea's reunification and wishes the Korean people success in their struggle for national reunification when he met with a delegation of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK.

Chuan Leekpai, prime minister and leader of the Democratic Party of Thailand, when he received a delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea, hoped for an early reunification of Korea in conformity with the will of the Korean people.

K.P. Silva, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Sri Lanka Communist Party, when he met with the Korean ambassador, said that he highly appreciates and supports the policy and sincere efforts of the Workers' Party of Korea for socialist construction and national reunification.

Gustavo Tablada, chairman of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party, expressed full support and solidarity for the fair and aboveboard proposal of the Workers' Party of Korea to achieve the reunification of the country.

Paris Chuche Seminar Sends Letter to Kim Chong-il

SK2002053293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0501 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 20 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a letter from the participants in the European Regional Seminar of the Chuche Idea on the Present Times and Independence of Europe which was held in Paris.

They say in the letter that they deeply analyzed at the seminar the complex international situation and sincerely discussed the main direction of the development of the times on the basis of the classical works "The Historical Lesson in Building Socialism and the General Line of Our Party" and "On the Fundamentals of Revolutionary Party Building" published by Comrade Kim Chong-il recently.

They express the conviction that the desire of the people to build an independent new world will be surely realized as there is the guidance of Comrade Kim Chong-il and the chuche idea lights their road.

They extend full support and solidarity for the Korean people's struggle to hew the unique way of socialist construction, put an end to the tragedy of national division and achieve the national reunification by applying the chuche idea under the wise guidance of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

They wholeheartedly wish Comrade Kim Chong-il good health and long life.

Board Letter Detailed

SK1902113193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 19 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a letter from the participants in the meeting of the 6th Executive Committee of the board of the International Institute of the Chuche Idea held in Paris.

The present-day situation shows that the struggle of the popular masses cannot advance if one fails to correctly grasp the reality in which the independent requirements of the people are constantly developing and to base oneself on the guiding idea which gives an answer to it, the letter says.

It notes that by publishing a large number of works including "The Historical Lesson in Building Socialism and the General Line of Our Party" and "On the Fundamentals of Revolutionary Party Building" Comrade Kim Chong-il deepened and developed ideologically and theoretically the chuche idea, a correct guiding idea which gives an answer to the requirements of the new era and clearly indicates the road ahead of mankind, and has further accelerated the struggle of the popular masses for independence.

It stresses that the ideological and theoretical activities of Comrade Kim Chong-il and the practice of the Korean revolution encourage the progressive people of the world, giving impetus to the struggle of the world people.

It evinces the resolution to more devotedly work to advance the activities of the popular masses for independence.

The letter wishes Comrade Kim Chong-il good health and long life.

Foreign Party, State Leaders Greet Kim Chong-il

SK1902131493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1610 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 18 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received messages of greetings from foreign party and state leaders on his birthday.

Among them are Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization; Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, president of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea and commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces; Mohamed Abdelaziz, president of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic and secretary general of the Polisario Peoples' Liberation Front; Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt; Laurent Gomina-Pampali, general secretary of the Democratic Rally of Central Africa; Victor Voichita, chairman of the Romanian Party for New Society; Sam Macy, chairman of the Worker's World Party of the United States; I.B.A. Kelepha Sama, national president of the People's Progressive Party of Gambia; Sada Yamahana, chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Social-Democratic Party; and V. Chikin, A.Lashkevich and V.M. Seenov, co-chairmen of the Political Executive Committee of the Party of Communists of Byelarus.

In the messages they warmly congratulated Comrade Kim Chong-il on his birthday and wholeheartedly wished the Korean people prosperity and well-being. They wished Comrade Kim Chong-il ong life and good health. A message of greetings came from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist).

Closing of 8th LSWYK Congress Detailed

SK2202132493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1008 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 22 (KCNA)—The 8th Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] closed today, successfully concluding its work.

The congress was a meeting of loyalty and singlehearted unity which demonstrated the unshakable faith and will of the organizations of the league, the admirable political reserve force of the Workers' Party of Korea, and the young people to carry the revolutionary cause of chuche through generations to accomplishment, united closely behind the party and the leader. It was a historical congress which set a landmark of a new turn in the development of the Korean youth movement under the banner of the chuche idea.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, appeared on the platform of the congress while the band struck up the welcome music.

That moment, the delegates burst into stormy cheers of "Hurrah!," enthusiastically shouting in chorus "Kim Chong-il," "Lodestar."

Delegates presented a floral basket to Comrade Kim Chong-il carrying unbounded feelings of respect and trust of the young people all over the country.

"Young People Must Honourably Accomplish the Revolutionary Cause of Chuche Upholding the Leadership of the Party," a letter of the great leader President Kim Il-song addressed to the 8th LSWYK Congress, was read by Kye Ung-tae, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea.

When the letter was read out, the delegates loudly shouted the slogan "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song!" and "Let us thoroughly implement the teachings given by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in his February 22, 1993 letter," evincing their firm determination to carry out the tasks set out in the letter with credit, develop the Korean youth movement steadily and further exalt the Korean-style socialism centred on the masses.

At the congress the entire delegates made a solemn oath of loyalty, led by Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the LSWYK Central Committee, toward platform, reflecting the unswerving faith and will of the five million young vanguards to defend the cause of socialism to the last under the guidance of the party like the first and second generations of revolution.

They shouted "Long live General Kim Chong-il!" and loudly sang in chorus "No Motherland Without You," waving red flags, filled with the firm conviction and determination to keep to their pledge invariably and accomplish the cause of socialism, united with one mind around Comrade Kim Chong-il, whatever manifold difficulties and trials may crop up in their way ahead.

A closing address was made at the congress.

The congress closed with all the delegates loudly singing in chorus the song "Let the Youths Uphold Our Party" carrying their youthful passion and shouting "Let us uphold our party with singlehearted unity!" and "Let us become guns and bombs safeguarding General Kim Chong-il!"

8th LSWYK Congress in Pyongyang Reported

ROK Group Head Gives Address

SK2002054993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1542 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 19 (KCNA)—Yi Chol-ung, head of the South Korean Youth Delegation, spoke at the second-day session of the 8th congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] which is open in Pyongyang.

He, to begin with, conveyed through the 8th LSWYK congress militant greetings of the youth and students in the South carrying their warm kindred feelings and strong solidarity to all the youth and students and compatriots in the northern half of the country.

"The current congress following grand celebrations of the birthday of dear Marshal Kim Chong-il is a congress demonstrating to the whole world the indomitable will of the young vanguard to resolutely defend and exalt socialism while decisively smashing the heinous anti-socialist moves of imperialism and international reaction, and it will shine long as a clear footprint marking a turning-point not only in the history of the youth movement of our country but also in the history of the world youth movement," he said, and went on:

"We feel in every fibre of our being what a superior and viable society the socialism of chuche is, the socialism under which the young people in the North live, witnessing the enviable reality never imagined in the South—the unquestioned trust of the youth and students of the North in and their loyalty to respected Generalissimo Kim Il-song and dear Marshal Kim Chong-il which we felt deeply in the Congress Hall and everywhere we went, the rockfirm singlehearted unity of the leader, the party and the masses, the patriotic enthusiasm and mettle to bring earlier the complete victory of socialism and national reunification, the happy and open hearted looks and simple, unassuming and openhearted appearance of the brethren in the North."

"To devote their youth to the noble fight for independence, democracy and reunification, upholding the great leader and the dear leader with a loyal heart, is the greatest honour, happiness, immutable faith and will of the youth and students of the South."

The chief delegate said the youth and students in the South, deeply conscious of their honorable mission to the times and the nation, have waged an unremitting struggle to end the colonial fascist rule of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges in the South and achieve the reunification of the country in step with the vigorous struggle of the youth and students in the North.

"With no amount of attempts can the United States and the South Korean ruling forces ever block the road of us advancing under the banner of the great chuche idea or turn back the popular sentiments in the South following the sun and lodestar of chuche," he said, and went on:

"We have still to walk a long and rugged path. But we will fight more vigorously with renewed revolutionary faith and will as the vanguard in the struggle for independence, democracy and reunification.

"We will fully prepare the driving force of the revolution for reunification by stepping up the modelling of our unit on the chuche idea, firmly arming the broad segments of the people with the chuche idea and rallying them closely behind the great leader and the dear leader.

"For the present, we will invigorate the struggle to decisively check the U.S. imperialists' war provocation moves and get the U.S. imperialist aggression forces and nuclear weapons out of South Korea.

"We will achieve great national unity and staunchly carry through the proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo shoulder to shoulder with the youth in the North to reunify the country on the principle of national independence, upholding the policy of national reunification put forward by the great leader in his new year address.

"Thus, we will faithfully fulfil the honorable duty as the vanguard fighters in the struggle for terminating the colonial rule of the U.S. imperialists in South Korea and achieving national reunification without fail in the '90s."

Kim Il-song Sends Letters to LSWYK Congress

Chuche Cause Stressed

SK2202133893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1012 GMT 22 Feb 93

["President Kim Il-song on Essential Question in Inheriting Revolutionary Cause of Chuche"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 22 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song in his letter to the Eighth Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] stresses that what is essential for our young people in inheriting and developing the revolutionary cause of chuche is to take over the tradition of single-hearted unity and be unfailingly loyal to the party.

He says:

Our revolution is today carried forward splendidly under the guidance of Comrade Kim Chong-il, the leader unfailingly faithful to the cause of the popular masses. Just like the first generation of our revolution who had blazed the glorious trail of the Korean revolution, firmly united around their leader in their struggle, our young people should support the leadership of the party with loyalty united around Comrade Kim Chong-il in one mind. This is the requirement of our revolution and herein lies the sure guarantee for safeguarding and accomplishing the cause of socialism and successfully achieving the historic cause of national reunification under any difficult and complicated circumstances.

Our single-hearted unity is unity of ideology and will based on the chuche idea and organizational unity of acting as one under the monolithic leadership of the party. Faithfulness to the party is none other than the faithfulness to the revolutionary ideology of the party and to its leadership.

'Downfall of Imperialism' Predicted

SK2202134093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 22 Feb 93

["Downfall of Imperialism and Victory of Socialism Is Law of History, Declares President Kim Il-song"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 22 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song in his letter to the 8th Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] on February 22, 1993, says that the present revolutionary situation is grave and complex, but the future of the revolution is optimistic and our cause is ever-victorious.

He notes:

Although the imperialists are putting on a show of power, the internal contradiction and corruption of imperialism are becoming aggravated with the passage of time, and the downfall of imperialism and the victory of socialism is an inexorable law of history. The imperialists cannot dampen our people's belief in socialism. Our socialism has not been brought to us by anyone else, nor is it an imitation of others'; our people themselves have chosen it and built it with their own efforts to meet their own demand. Our socialism in which the independent and creative life of the people is ensured and the happiness and ideal of the youth come into bloom under the care of the party and the state, has taken root deep in the life of our youth and other people and has become something inseparable from our fate. The fate of socialism is precisely the fate of our people and youth.

'Imperialists' Threat' Noted

SK2202134493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023 GMT 22 Feb 93

["No Amount of Imperialists' Threat Can Check Our Advance, States President Kim Il-song"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 22 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song in his letter to the 8th Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] "Young People Must Honourably Accomplish the Revolutionary Cause of Chuche

Upholding the Leadership of the Party" on February 22, 1993, declares that no amount of the imperialists' threat can check our advance.

He says that the grave situation in which socialism has suffered a setback and capitalism has made a comeback in some countries and the frantic machinations of the imperialists and reactionaries against socialism and our republic which are being perpetrated with this situation as a momentum, are creating a great difficulty for our revolution and bringing up a weighty task for it.

He states that whether we defend the cause of socialism from all manner of challenge on the part of the imperialists and reactionaries and develop it further or not is a vital problem which affects the destiny of our revolution; it is an important problem which has a bearing on the existence of socialism and the future of mankind.

He stresses:

We have the strength to defend and bring honour to socialism and accomplish the revolution to the end.

Today we have the tested leadership of the great party, the people who are united behind the party in one mind, a powerful independent national economy with which we can get along by relying on ourselves under any conditions and an invincible revolutionary armed force capable of repulsing any formidable enemy and defending the gains of socialism. No amount of the imperialists' military threat, political and ideological offensive and economic blockade can terrify our people and check our advance.

It is the sacred duty of the young people to defend the party and revolution with arms. The young people should have a correct viewpoint on imperialism and war, sincerely study military affairs and make every possible effort to implement our party's military line of self-reliance in defence.

Youth 'Advance Guard' Role Noted

SK2202134793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT 22 Feb 93

["President Kim Il-song Sends Letter to 8th LSWYK Congress"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 22 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song sent a letter "Young People Must Honourably Accomplish the Revolutionary Cause of Chuche Upholding the Leadership of the Party" to the 8th Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] on February 22, 1993.

President Kim Il-song in his letter says that in the whole course of the Korean revolution, since its start up to now, the young people have creditably fulfilled their role as the advance guard of the revolution and made an undying contribution to defending and safeguarding our revolution and victoriously advancing it.

Noting that under the correct leadership of the party, our young people of the new generation are now admirably growing up to be reliable heirs to the revolution, he says our party and people take great pride in having such admirable and commendable young people of the new generation as the reserves of the revolution.

Next, he sets forth the tasks facing the young people in accomplishing the revolutionary cause of chuche.

What is essential for our young people in inheriting and developing the revolutionary cause of chuche is to take over the tradition of single-hearted unity and be unfailingly loyal to the party, he says, and continues:

Just like the first generation of our revolution who had blazed the glorious trail of the Korean revolution, firmly united around their leader in their struggle, our young people should support the leadership of the party with loyalty united around Comrade Kim Chong-il in one mind.

Noting that it is the sacred duty of the young people to defend the party and revolution with arms, he says the soldiers of the People's Army must prepare themselves to be each a match for a hundred foes so as to make the defence lines of the fatherland impregnable.

Pointing out that the young people are the standard-bearers of national reunification and the masters of the reunified country, he says they should stand at the head of the whole nation in the struggle to reunify the country in the '90s.

The struggle of our people to complete the revolutionary cause of chuche is closely linked with the struggle of the progressive people of the world to oppose imperialism and build an independent, new world, he notes, adding: Our youth should further strengthen the friendship, unity and solidarity with the progressive youth of the world in conformity with the idea of independence, peace and friendship.

Ministry Hosts Reception on Kim Chong-il Birthday

SK1902054593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 19 (KCNA)—The Foreign Ministry arranged a film show and a reception at the people's palace of culture Thursday on the occasion of the birthday of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Present on invitation were diplomatic envoys and embassy officials of various countries in Korea and chief of the Pyongyang mission of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon).

Kim Yong-nam, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-premier of the administration council and foreign minister, made a speech at the reception.

He said:

"The birth of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il was a great auspicious event of the Korean people in which they greeted a sagacious leader who would lead the revolutionary cause of chuche pioneered by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to a brilliant victory and a historic event promising a bright future of our nation. Comrade Kim Chong-il has performed undying feats for the times and history by devoting his all to the country and the people in the whole period till today from the time when he embarked on the road of revolution."

Noting that he was devoting his all not only to the accomplishment of our revolution, but also to the building of a peaceful, independent and prosperous new world free from aggression and war, domination and subjugation, Kim said: "We will firmly maintain independence and revolutionary principles according to the foreign policy of independence, peace and friendship put forward by our party and tighten the bonds of friendship and cooperation with socialist and non-aligned countries and all other countries of the world which are friendly toward our country."

Juan Jose Leon Vega, Cuban ambassador to Korea and doyen of the diplomatic corps, made a speech:

He said he could witness many successes gained in Korea with the birthday of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as an occasion.

He hoped that Comrade Kim Chong-il would enjoy good health and long life to carry the leadership of President Kim Il-song to a brilliant fruition, thus discharging his important duty in his leadership for big strides forward in the political and economic realms of Korea.

He also expressed the hope that the Korean people would attain the goals for peace and prosperity and achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country in the near future.

He asked for conveying to Comrade Kim Chong-il the best wishes of the diplomatic corps for his longevity in good health.

The participants saw the Korean documentary films "Korea that rose on ruins" and "my socialist country" before the reception.

Commentator Warns of Victimization by 'Great Powers'

SK2202104693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0655 GMT 22 Feb 93

["Let Us Not Fall a Victim to Great Powers—NODONG SINMUN Commentator's Article"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 22 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN Sunday carried a commentator's article under the headline "Let Us Not Fall a Victim to Great Powers."

Following is the full text of the article:

The situation on the Korean peninsula at present is very tense and acute. All the movements once oriented toward detente and peace have come to a complete standstill because of the "nuclear problem." All the North-South dialogues have been totally stopped, the implementation of the North-South agreement and joint declaration on denuclearization has been blocked and the situation is growing more acute with every passing day, fraught with the danger of renewed confrontation and conflict.

The current ill-boding moves of great powers to force a "special inspection" on us by using the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] and, furthermore, to take some coercive step against our republic by dint of the U.N. Security Council have put us on a sharp alert, causing deep apprehensions among the world people.

As is well known, the IAEA's nuclear inspection of our country has been conducted smoothly up until now. In this course the honesty of our republic's peaceful nuclear policy has been proved and the agency welcomed our cooperative attitude toward its nuclear inspection. But, now, they are going to infringe on the sovereignty of our republic and push the situation to an extreme phase with outcries over "special inspection" and "sanctions." Why? Do they think we are developing nuclear weapons or threatening somebody with nuclear arms? Even at the moment when we have signed the Nuclear Safeguards Accord and are undergoing nuclear inspection, we are a target of the large number of U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea and are exposed to the danger of nuclear attack due to nuclear war exercises being staged in South Korea.

This notwithstanding, they are intentionally straining the situation over the problem of "nuclear inspection" of us. This is part of the moves of the United States, Japan and other imperialist reactionaries to isolate and stifle our republic, the bastion of socialism. The United States which has been left the only superpower following the collapse of the Cold War structure of East- West confrontation has resorted to its "policy of strength" more undisguisedly, playing the role of international gendarme arbitrarily poking its nose in the internal affairs of other nations and regional issues. Because of such arbitrariness of the United States many countries in the Middle East, Africa and Latin America have their sovereignty trampled upon and, misfortunes and disasters are imposed on peoples. The United States is intending to employ the method it had used in other regions and countries against our republic in Asia. Japan, accustomed to making fortunes by clinging to big powers, is taking the lead in raising a hue and cry over the "suspicion of nuclear development" against our republic in an effort to focus world attention on it, while working round the clock to become a military power and arm itself with nuclear weapons with the backing of the United States.

To make matters worse, the South Korean rulers are playing the role of "shock brigade" in the imperialist reactionaries' "special inspection" row to do harm to the fellow countrymen.

When some quarters of the International Atomic Energy Agency put the question of "special inspection" of us on the order of the day, the South Korean authorities called together officials concerned of the "Chongwadae," "Foreign Ministry" and "Unification Board" as if they had been waiting for it and decided to "actively respond" to it. They went so far as to send a "delegation" to realize the "special inspection." Due to this racket of the South Korean authorities the question of "nuclear inspection" of us has become more complicated.

Their futile attempt is, in the final analysis, an unpardonable flunkeyist treachery aimed at unleashing another war in our country by following outside forces and thereby making our nation a victim to big powers.

The South Korean authorities are criminals who, from the outset, offered South Korea as the biggest U.S. nuclear arsenal in the Far East and brought the seeds of nuclear war into the Korean peninsula. For this alone, they deserve curses and condemnation by the whole naoion as traitors who committed an indelible crime against the nation.

Nevertheless, they have flouted the nation and misled world opinion with a puppet show, saying they did not know whether the U.S. nuclear weapons were introduced or not when the United States advertised its policy of neither confirming nor denying the introduction of nuclear weapons into South Korea, and declaring the absence of nuclear weapons when the United States announced that it had withdrawn nuclear weapons from South Korea. Even after adopting and effectuating the basic agreement and joint declaration on denuclearization with the North they laid an obstacle in the way of the talks by abruptly bringing forward the "nuclear problem" as a precondition for the dialogue when the United States urged them to "shelve" the implementation of the agreement and joint declaration on denuclearization with outcries over the "nuclear problem." They did not hesitate to stoop to such anti-national perfidy on bringing the North-South dialogues to a standstill all at once by deciding to resume the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises which was suspended last year. They had incited North-South confrontation by threatening the North with a "surprise strike" at its peaceful industrial establishments and a "preemptive attack" and are now making a big fuss over lthe problem of "special inspection" in a bid to impose international "sanctions" on the fellow countrymen. The South Korean authorities are, indeed, a group of traitors who do not care for the nation, peace and reunification of the country.

He who digs a pit for others falls in himself. It is an act of self-destruction and a criminal act of putting South Korea itself in peril for the South Korean rulers to try to harm the fellow countrymen by dancing to the tune of outside forces without independence.

The Korean nation must not play into the hands of big powers and not fall a victim to them.

The "special inspection" campaign against the DPRK is an offspring of the plot of big powers to get something at the sacrifice of our nation. If a "special inspection" or "sanctions" are forced on us and the inviolable soil of our country is infringed upon by big powers, it would result in plunging the whole land of the North and the South into the holocaust of a war.

Our nation has a grievous past in which it lost the country, put on the altar of the big powers' rivalry, and has suffered from the tragic division for nearly half a century as a victim to the confrontation between the East and the West. If our fellow countrymen who have experienced all national misfortunes and sufferings caused by outside forces are caught again into a dangerous trap laid by big powers, it would be a more horrible national disaster than the tragedy of the division.

At this juncture, any Korean who loves the country and the nation must take a patriotic road for the ntion, not playing into hands of big powers.

The biggest treachery for our fellow countrymen at present is to let big powers catch fish in troubled waters at the expense of our nation and the greatest patriotism is to thwart the plots of big powers and save the nation from the approaching disasters.

It is none other than the Korean people who must avert a war and ensure peace in Korea. The Korean people, whether they live in the North or in the South, must reject foreign interference, take the stand of national independence and defend the interests of the nation. National independence, anti-war, anti-nuke and peace are the flag of the struggle which our fellow countrymen should hold high today when the imperialists and the reactionaries are leading the situation of the Korean peninsula to the brink of war under the pretext of the "nuclear problem".

All the Korean people must turn out in an all-people struggle for checking the row of "special inspection" raised under the pressure of big powers and the "Team Spirit" nuclear war game, getting the U.S. Forces and nuclear weapons out of South Korea and denuclearizing the Korean peninsula.

Our people who value the dignity and sovereignty of the nation and are resolved to defend the Korean-style socialism centred on the popular masses like an impregnable fortress cannot tolerate any steps which big powers are going to take over the "nuclear problem".

The United States plans to resume such nuclear war game as the "Team Spirit" against the DPRK, a non-nuclear nation, and is groundlessly demanding a "special inspection" on the DPRK. This cannot be justified on

any ground. The United States must not attempt to employ in Korea the same method which it did in other country. If the United States intends to use such method in Korea, it would be a big mistake for it. The United States, clearly mindful that any "policy of strength" cannot go down with the Korean people united in one mind around the party and the leader, must stop such reckless acts as instigating the international organization.

Some quarters of the IAEA are urging a "special inspection" of our military sites which have nothing to do with nuclear activities, on the basis of a false "information" provided by others. It is unreasonable both in view of the statute of the organization and in view of the safeguards agreement. It is also incompatible with the principle of international justice and impartiality. If some quarters of the IAEA force unreasonable steps on the DPRK, bowing to the pressure of big powers, the world people would not trust it.

The Korean people will never allow others to violate the dignity of our nation and infringe upon the sovereignty of the country, our life and soul.

We mean what we say and we do not say empty words.

The United States and its followers would be well advised to clearly see the unshakable will of the Korean people and act with discretion.

Daily Urges Citizenry To 'Intensify' Ideology

SK2002112293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1032 GMT 20 Feb 93

["WPK's Wise and Tested Guidance of Ideological Work"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 20 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries an article contributed by Choe Yong-kun, secretary of the North Hwanghae provincial committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, upon the lapse of 19 years since the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il organized a historical national short course of party propaganda officials and set tasks of the party's ideological work arising in- modelling the whole society on the chuche idea.

He quotes Comrade Kim Chong-il as saying:

"Only when a revolutionary party properly carries on the ideological work for eliminating all shades of reactionary bourgeois ideologies and arming the people with progressive socialist ideology, is it possible to definitely ensure the victory of socialist ideology and successfully imbue the whole society with the same idea."

The article notes:

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, with a deep insight into the significance and importance of the party's ideological work, published an immortal classical work 19 years ago to give a comprehensive exposition of all the theoretical and practical questions arising in improving and strengthening the party's ideological work and has energetically directed the efforts to carry them into effect.

In this course, the WPK has set a shining example of how the ruling party under socialism should constantly tackle and intensify the party's ideological work and performed undying feats for the time and the revolution, for the country and the people.

What is important in the WPK's wise leadership in the party's ideological work is that it defined on a scientific basis the modelling of the whole society on the chuche idea as the starting point and the basic duty of our party's ideological work, put forward a revolutionary policy for conducting the ideological work in close combination with the socialist economic construction and has made sure that the policy was implemented to the letter.

It is also important in the party's leadership over the ideological work that the party has overcome formalism and brought about a new turn in the ideological work.

The work published by Comrade Kim Chong-il in the national short course for party propaganda officials has served as a precious guideline which those engaged in the party's ideological work should always adhere to. The most acute front in the confrontation with imperialism at present is the ideological domain. If we are to smash the ideological offensive of the imperialists and powerfully demonstrate the truth of the socialist idea, it is necessary to intensify the ideological work as never before.

Daily Urges Dignity, Pride in Party Leadership

SK1902032993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0017 GMT 17 Feb 93

[NODONG SINMUN 17 February editorial: "Let Us Vigorously Advance With a Great Dignity and Pride for the Great Party's Leadership"]

[Text] Our people, marking the significant February holiday with their best national festivals, are now overflowing with a great dignity and pride of living and carrying out revolution under the great leader [yong-doja]'s leadership.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated: With a great dignity and pride, our party members and working people are now recalling the revolutionary road our party has embarked upon. They are firmly resolved to make energetic efforts to build the socialist paradise on the territory of the fatherland and to realize national reunification—our people's long-cherished desire—under the party's banner.

Today, our people are living in the most glorious and worthwhile era in which our party has won a brilliant

victory in its cause. Our party's cause is a sacred chuche-oriented one to give all people boundless freedom and happiness by building socialism in which the popular masses have completely realized independence under the banner of the chuche idea.

The chuche revolutionary cause pioneered in the forest of Mt. Paektu is being vigorously accelerated at a higher level in making the entire party and the whole society achieve the chuche ideal. Our party Central Committee stands in the forefront of this historic march.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has wisely led the entire party, the entire Army, and all people to the single road of victory. As a result, our people's revolutionary struggle is becoming rewarding and glorious more and more. In our 5,000 years of history, never has there been more great pride in our people and more prosperity for our fatherland than today, era of the Workers Party of Korea, which we are moving forward under the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's leadership.

Therefore, our people, marking the February national holiday, are extending their best gratitude to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who has provided them with boundless happiness and glory, who has led the revolution and construction to the ever-victorious road, and who has gained the immortal achievements before the times and history. They are also resolved to endlessly consummate the chuche socialist cause under his seasoned leadership.

All party members and working people should cherish deep in their hearts the dignity and pride of upholding the most prominent [kolchulhan] and great leader [yongdoja], who is leading the chuche socialist cause to the brilliant victory. Thus, they should make great innovations in the revolution and construction.

Party members and working people should, first of all, keep deep in their mind that our people's most great national glory and best fortune are to uphold the practiced and seasoned great leader [yongdoja], who is leading the socialist cause to the brilliant victory in our times.

The destiny of the socialist cause pioneering the untrodden road depends on how we would uphold his leadership. For our people, there is no greater fortune than following the seasoned leadership of the great leader [yongdoja], who is possessed of brilliant wisdom, outstanding leadership, and lofty virtues.

Today, our people are becoming most dignified and glorious, enjoying their great national glory and fortune by carrying out the revolution with the upholding of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il at the head of our party and Army.

With its extraordinary wisdom and foresight always guiding the road ahead of the socialist cause in the forefront of the times; with its seasoned leadership of excellently solving all problems, while firmly adhering to the revolutionary principle; and with its clearest judgment and peerless courage for reaching a high goal which cannot be imaged with a common sense, our party—thanks to its unique greatness and leading nature—firmly grips the hearts of our people and the world revolutionary people. Our party is possessed of a high leading authority and prestige as the great guide for the socialist cause.

Party organizations should enable all party members and working people to keep deep in their mind that for our people, how very fortunate and national glorious it is to carry out the revolution by upholding the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who is the great and prominent leader [kolchulhan yongdoja] of the socialist cause in our times.

All party members and working people always cherish deep in their hearts that because there is the great leader [yongdoja], there is the chuche socialist cause as well as our people's happiness, dignity, and bright future. They should make loyalty to the leader [yongdoja] their faith, conscience, morality, and life. They should also become a fortress and shield in safeguarding, defending, and upholding the leader [yongdoja].

Also, party members and working people should deeply bear the faith and optimism that our socialist cause advancing under the great leader's [yongdoja] seasoned leadership will achieve a victory without fail.

The people should have optimism and faith in certain victory to invariably walk along the severe revolutionary road to the end. For our people, optimism and faith in certain victory is absolute trust in the greatness of our party and its wise leadership.

The firm faith that we will achieve a victory without fail when we advance under the seasoned leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is the basic source of our people's faith and optimism.

All party members and working people should advance, calling up their courage with the firm faith that as long as we have the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's extraordinary wisdom and his matured and seasoned leadership, we can overcome all sorts of obstacle and occupy all kinds of fortress and will be ever-victorious in the whole course of the implementation of the socialist cause.

Even though the imperialists and reactionaries are persistently maneuvering to isolate and suffocate our republic, a battery of socialism, and to destroy our socialist cause, no one can dare to irritate us as long as the firm, invincible unity between the party, the Army, and the people around the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il exists.

Party members and working people should be firmly convinced that because we have the great revolutionary Army led by the great leader [yongdoja] and have the

Given in the press are an account of the second-day session of the 8th congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, a message of the congratulatory corps of the Korean Children's Union to the congress and speeches by the head of the South Korean youth delegation and the head of the congratulatory group of the League of Korean Youth in Japan at the congress.

Papers inform the readers that the Ministry of People's Armed Forces gave a reception for the Peruvian military delegation and Minister of People's Armed Forces O Chin-u met with the delegation.

Appearing in the press is a statement of the North side's chairman of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee denouncing the South Korean authorities for trying to force a "special inspection" upon the North in collusion with the United States.

MINJU CHOSON comments on the shameless attempt of the South Korean authorities to evade the responsibility for having foiled the North-South dialogue by resuming the "Team Spirit" war game.

23 Feb Press Reviewed

SK2302050993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0434 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 23 (KCNA)—Papers here today devote their front pages to the letter of the great leader President Kim Il-song addressed to the 8th congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] "Young People Must Honourably Accomplish the Revolutionary Cause of Chuche Upholding the Leadership of the Party".

They carry a photo-illustrated report that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il participated in the closing meeting of the 8th congress of the lswy and a report that he sent gifts to the participants in the congress.

Edited in the press is a photo-accompanied report that an evening of Pyongyang youth and students "Song of Singlehearted Unity by the Young Vanguard" was held with splendor to celebrate the 8th congress of the lswy with the attendance of President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Also given in the papers is a photo-accompanied report that President Kim Il-song received the delegation of the Communist Party of Greece.

NODONG SINMUN gives an account of a meeting held in India to celebrate the birthday of Comrade Kim Chong-il and words of foreigners and foreign publications wishing him good health and longevity.

Papers give an account of the talks held between the delegations of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Slovak Communist Party and accounts of the sojourn of foreign party delegatqons in Korea. The Madagascan president received the Korean ambassador and the Korean ambassador presented his credentials to the Equatorial Guinean president, says the press.

The press reports about air war exercises staged by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets against the North and conveys voices of world public denouncing the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises as a nuclear war game against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

NODONG SINMUN in a commentary "What Does the Situation Following the Effectuation of North-South Agreement Show" exposes that the South Korean authorities, in collusion with outside forces, have violated the basic spirit of the agreement and incited confrontation with the North.

The paper carries an article to prove that nuclear threat on the Korean peninsula comes from South Korea.

MINJU CHOSON comments on the South Korean authorities' outcries for a "special inspection" of the North before the February meeting of the board of governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA].

The unjustifiable stand of the IAEA to force an illegal "special inspection" on the DPRK under pressure from the United States was under fire in many countries, according to the press.

The press observes the 23rd anniversary of the proclamation of the cooperative republic of Guyana.

World news of the press includes reports that the Indian prime minister called for heightening vigilance against moves of national division and the national executive committee of the African National Congress of South africa denounced the provocations by the UNITA.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with an article dealing with the escalation of the civil war in Angola, and MINJU CHOSON an article branding the "regional defence strategy" of the United States as an aggressive military strategy to realize the plan of world domination with accelerated pace.

KCNA Reviews 22 Feb NODONG SINMUN

SK2202145593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0714 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 22 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a message of greetings sent by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to Prime Minister John George Melvi Compton of Saint Lucia on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the independence of Saint Lucia.

Appearing in the daily is a report that President Kim Il-song received [words indistinct] in reply to his messages of greetings sent to them respectively upon the

election as president of the Republic of Slovenia and upon the election as chairman of the Central Committee of the Nepal Communist Party (United Marxism-Leninism).

Printed in the daily are a letter to the great leader President Kim Il-song from the participants in the European regional seminar of the chuche idea on the present times and European independence and a message of thanks to him from Norodom Ranariddh, chairman of the Funcinpec party and member of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, upon leaving Korea and a solidarity letter to him from Tridib Chouduri, general secretary of the Revolutionary Socialist Party of India.

Solidarity letters came to President Kim Il-song from different countries supporting his New Year address, says the daily.

The daily comes out with an article on the lapse of one year since President Kim Il-song published "Let the North and the South Open the Way to Peace and the Reunification of the Country in a United Effort", a talk with the delegates of the two sides to the inter-Korean high-level talks.

It is reported in the daily that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent national musical instruments to Chongnyon schools at all levels.

The daily carries news that "On the Fundamentals of Revolutionary Party Building", an immortal classical work of Comrade Kim Chong-il, was published in booklet in different countries and his birthday was grandly celebrated in foreign countries.

The daily gives frontpage prominence to an editorial headlined "Let the Whole Party Serve the People Faithfully."

Figuring large in the daily are speeches at the 8th Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea and an account of more than 150 congratulatory messages and letters to the congress from many countries of the world and international and regional organisations in the name of their organisations or on their individual behalf.

It reports that talks were held in Pyongyang respectively between the delegations of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the Bulgarian Communist Party (Marxists), between the delegations of the WPK and the Communist Party of Greece and between the delegations of the WPK and the New Yugoslav Communist Movement, and that the WPK Central Committee gave a reception for the visiting delegation of the For Peace and Socialism-the Communist Workers' Party of Finland. Ccounts of the sojourn of foreign party delegations and party general secretaries in Korea are given in it.

Carried in the daily is an article published by Yi Hyon-ok, the daughter of Yi In-mo, a former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army, demanding that the South Korean authorities send her father back to her family.

The world news of the daily includes reports that the Jamaica-Korea Friendship Association made public a statement denouncing the attempts of the United States and some Western countries to force a "special inspection" upon Korea and foreign publications reported about the DPRK's principled stand on the problem of nuclear inspection.

The french magazine MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE exposed the seamy side of renewed arms race of Western countries, reports the daily.

The daily introduces Saint Lucia greeting its independence day.

South Korea

Prime Minister-Designate Gives TV Interview

SK2302015893 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1200 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Interview with Prime Minister-designate Hwang In-song by correspondent Ryu Kun-chan—recorded; date, place not given]

[Text] [Ryu Kun-chan] How are you?

[Hwang In-song] How are you?

[Ryu] First, I congratulate you on being appointed prime minister.

[Hwang] Thank you.

[Ryu] The selection of the new government's prime minister has been a matter of everyone's concern, because the selection of prime minister is the most important issue in President-elect Kim Yong-sam's personnel policy.

President-elect Kim has thought about the selection of prime minister for a long time. Were you notified in advance of your being appointed to prime minister?

[Hwang] I was not notified of this in advance. However, yesterday, President-elect Kim abruptly informed me that he would appoint me to prime minister. Despite the fact that I am not a well-qualified person as prime minister in many respects, I come to shoulder this heavy important position. I keenly feel my duty.

[Ryu] You are evaluated as a so-called working-style prime minister who has a political sense and administrative ability. However, you had comparatively worked at better positions during the former ruling parties' days. Judging from the standpoint of reform, your being

appointed to prime minister lacks freshness to some extent. Why do you think you are appointed to prime minister?

[Hwang] Many election promises about reform that our party made to the people have been put into practice, I think.

[Ryu] Of course, there remains a procedure that you should get the National Assembly's endorsement. If you take office, how will you lead the new government's reforming policy?

[Hwang] As President-elect Kim Yong-sam already stressed to the people frequently, I will uphold his strong will to eliminate the irregularities and corruption prevailing in society. I believe that I should press ahead with reforming policy by setting an example in eliminating irregularities and corruption.

[Ryu] In particular, President-elect Kim Yong-sam regards the new government's tasks as eliminating irregularities and corruption and revitalizing the economy. I would like to know what are your thoughts and plans on the tasks.

[Hwang] As I already said, the irregularities and corruption prevailing in our society are a great stumbling block to economic development. To revitalize our economy again, the new government should map out an all-out policy and should boldly promote it.

[Ryu] What is the election promise to which top priority should be given?

[Hwang] The most important thing among various tasks facing us is to revitalize economy, I think. Next, by removing regional and class conflicts, the people should participate in great harmony. By so doing, the people should achieve national harmony to prepare for reunification.

[Ryu] You are a lawmaker now. Will you give up your position as a lawmaker in the National Assembly?

[Hwang] I think that my position as a lawmaker is the responsibility and right which our people and my local eligible voters gave me. I will steadily discharge my responsibility as a lawmaker.

[Ryu] You are a prime minister coming from North Cholla Province, that is Cholla Province. The issue of removing regionalism, the issue of removing conflicts between classes that you mentioned above, and the issue of maintaining relations with the opposition parties can be very important tasks. What is your plan about these issues?

[Hwang] We are ringing in a new era. Regional conflict brought about by political circles should not exist. Regional conflict has been a great stumbling block to our national harmony. Regional conflict is the important task which should be settled for national development. Our political circles as well as the entire people should pool strength to remove the regional conflict. In a bid to cooperate with and understand each other, it is important for the people to promote national harmony.

[Ryu] This is a final question. Did you exchange opinions with the next president about the issue of forming the new cabinet?

[Hwang] There has been no concrete discussion yet. I, however, believe that we will have such an opportunity.

[Ryu] Thank you very much in spite of your busy schedule.

[Hwang] Thank you.

YONHAP Profiles Prime Minister-Designate

SK2202114493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0705 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 22 (YONHAP)—Prime Minister-designate Hwang In-song, 67, has had a wide-ranging career in the military, public administration, politics and business. He is known for his enthusiasm, broad collection of friends and reasonableness. "I have no fabric in politics," he claims, and his friends confirm he is non-political. This lack of political color might have enabled Hwang to hold important posts in government since the Third Republic without a break, analysts say.

Born in Muju, North Cholla Province, Hwang graduated in the fourth class of the Korea Military Academy and retired as a major general in 1968. His 22 years of military service were confined to financial affairs. He was director of the Army Central Finance Corps, superintendent of the Finance School and director-general of the Defense Ministry's Financial Affairs Bureau. Hwang was nicknamed "German soldier" in the military because he was a skilled accountant and never failed in his assignments.

He resigned his commission as head of the ministry's Financial Affairs Bureau in 1968, holding himself responsible for a leak of a military budget plan to the press. Two years later, Hwang entered the officialdom as secretary to Yi Pyong-ok, a cabinet minister without portfolio and Hwang's one-time subordinate. He worked as top secretary of Prime Minister Kim Chong-pil for a short period in 1973 and then spent five years as governor of North Cholla Province, becoming the longest-serving provincial governor. He enjoyed great fame as governor by realizing some remarkable projects such as road expansion and pavement and the creation of an industrial complex.

Hwang served as transportation minister in 1978 and president of the International Tourism Corp., forerunner of the Korean National Tourism Corp, in 1980. The Democratic Justice Party, headed by President Chon Tu-hwan, put him in charge of the district chapter of North Cholla Province in 1981 in recognition of his public credentials. He was elected to the 11th and 12th National Assemblies and chaired the Committee on

Transportation and Communications in 1981-83. He was agriculture, forestry and fisheries minister in 1985-87. He entered business in 1988 as the first president of Asiana Airlines Co. and was among six world aviation figures named for excellent work by the magazine "AVIATION WEEK" in 1990.

Hwang returned to politics by winning the general election in the Muju-Chinan-Changsu constituency, North Cholla Province, for the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] last year. He was one of only two DLP lawmakers elected in Cholla, the stronghold of opposition leader Kim Tae-chung. With the help of Hwang, who has been the DLP policymaker since May last year, Kim Yong-sam could win many votes in the Muju-Chinan-Changsu constituency in last December's presidential election. Acquaintances say the prime minister-designate is sociable and faithful. He has three sons and a daughter. Hwang doesn't smoke and limits his alcoholic intake to one glass of Soju. He sometimes plays golf early in the morning to keep fit.

No Tae-u Holds Farewell News Conference

SK2302014293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0129 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 23 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u, bidding farewell to the nation, said Tuesday he believed that a decisive breakthrough could open up for unification of Korea within this decade, if Koreans make unswerving efforts toward that goal. In his last press conference at Chongwadae [presidential residence], No said that now unification of their country was a problem left for the Koreans to solve as his government had helped remove all external obstacles through the democratization of South Korea. No, who was elected president in 1987, hands the reins to Kim Yong-sam and retires on Thursday, when the president-elect is inaugurated as the nation's 14th president.

"Democratization of our country is a product of our people, made possible through their self-control and participation," No said. South Korea has passed the important threshold in its march to join the ranks of advanced nations, No said. "Democracy has freed us from a history of drawn-out conflict and confrontation and gave us strength to advance to the world... and became a major player in the world history," No said.

He said that the nation had to pay the price in economy for democracy. Nevertheless, he went on, the country has achieved high rates of economic growth at the time when the whole world was undergoing a period of recession. Saying immediate tasks facing the nation are an economic leap forward and unification, No urged the people to rally behind the new government of Kim Yong-sam to overcome difficulties through unity and solidarity. "Let us tighten our belts and roll up our sleeves once more," No said. In the last five years of democratizing "we could have put forward our rights over responsibility," he said. "We have to reflect on this point, and (carry on the democratization) by shouldering our shares and fulfilling our responsibilities."

'Cleaner of Historical Residue'

SK2302072093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0641 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 23 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u asked to be seen as a "common man" when he was elected to the nation's highest office five years ago, but admitted Tuesday that he had failed. "(The presidential office of) Chongwadae is a really busy place. It was work, work, work: Day and night," No said. "I had no freedom. I was a complete prisoner in that office. "But now I can shed that burden and really be a common man and I want to read books, meet friends and visit a public bathhouse," No told his last press conference on Tuesday morning. No is to hand over to Kim Yong-sam at a presidential inauguration ceremony on Thursday morning.

Asked to evaluate his performance as a president, No said he had been a "cleaner of historical residue" created by years of conflict and confrontation at home and abroad. He believed he had washed away all the dregs and paved the way for the new president to open an era of national reconciliation and harmony, No said.

He said that he was glad he had been "mul (watery) Tae-u," as some people have called him, rather than "pul (fiery) Tae-u," as they had wanted him to be. The nickname "watery (wishy-washy) Tae- u" was given to No by critics for his lukewarm policies and actions. "Since I was a watery president I was able to wash away all the dirt. In the process, we were able to realize democratization and provide a foundation for national reconciliation and stability," he said. The 61-year-old president said that although he has not yet worked out a detailed plan for his retirement, he would like to contribute to the country as a former president. "Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter was said to have been unpopular during his tenure, but in retirement he is receiving a lot of respect from the American people for his social work," No said.

In an exclusive interview with YEONGNAM ILBO, a local newspaper published in Taegu, on Monday, No said that the people's judgement on the merger in February 1990 of three political parties into the Democratic Liberal Party was expressed at the ballot box in the Dec. 18 presidential election. The support for Democratic Party presidential candidate Kim Tae- chung in the Cholla Provinces was so solid that the results of the presidential election would not have been much different even if the three-party merger hadn't taken place, No said. With regard to the political activities of his in-laws, Reps. Kim Pok-tong and Pak Chol-on, No said that there had been "difficulties" precisely because they were his relatives.

No declined to comment further, however, and said it was not appropriate for him to talk about their immediate political future at this juncture. Pak and Kim, against the advice and wishes of No, left the ruling Democratic Liberal Party and joined the United People's Party, which is facing imminent disintegration.

Seoul High Prosecutor Office Chief Appointed

SK2202143693 Seoul YONHAP in English 1213 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 22 (YONHAP)—The government on Monday appointed Kim Yu-hu, senior Chongwadae secretary for justice and inspection, to serve as chief prosecutor of the Seoul High Prosecutor's Office. Kim, who studied law at Seoul National University and passed a bar examination in 1962, had been at Chongwadae since January last year. His past duties included the Justice Ministry's Planning-Management Office chief and Proseuction Bureau chief and chief prosecutor of the Pusan district prosecutor's office.

Meanwhile, Pak Pil-su, director of the Korean Consumers Protection Board, tendered his resignation to the government on last Saturday. Pak told reporters Monday he plans to indulge in writing in the future.

Kim Yong-sam To Conduct DLP Reshuffle

SK2302053193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0305 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 23 (YONHAP)—President-elect Kim Yong-sam will conduct a major reshuffle of the Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), of which he is head, as the naming of a new chief policymaker was made necessary by the nomination Monday of the current postholder, Hwang In-song, as prime minister. "President-elect Kim Yong-sam will announce a party reshuffle by the time that a new cabinet is formed," Yi Kyong-chae, senior presidential press secretary-designate, said Tuesday.

But sources close to the party leadership said that Kim was likely to announce an extensive party reshuffle affecting all three major posts and mid-level positions "right after" forming his cabinet on Friday. "Kim will first sort out candidates from among party members to fill posts in the cabinet and then get down to party reshuffle. The reshuffle will cover most offices in the party, including the three key posts," an aide to the president-elect said. Kim was determined to abandon the practice of considering factional interests in selecting office-holders, so there would be no appointment of executive council members simply for the sake of appearances, he predicted.

Tabbed as candidates for DLP Secretary-general are Reps. Kim Yun- hwan, Kim Chong-ho and Choe Hyong-u, for chairman of the policy committee, Na Ung-pae and Kim Chung-wi, and for floor leader, Chong Sun-tok, Yi Min-sop and Kim Chong-su. Reps. Mun Chong-su and Kang Chae-sop are candidates for Deputy Secretary-general and Kim Un-hwan, Kim Yong-il and Kim Han-kyu are tabbed for policy coordinator. Rep. Sin Kyong-sik is favored for spokesman.

The sources said that the cabinet would have at least five members from the ruling party. Secretary-general Kim Yong-ku, floor leader Kim Yong-tae, spokesman Pak Hui-tae, chief policy coordinator So Sang-mok, Rep. Kim Tok-ryong, Nam Chae-hui, Hwang Pyong-tae, Kim U-sok, former chief secretary to the party president Choe Chang-yun and special assistant to the party president for political affairs O In-hwan are candidates for cabinet posts.

Kim is expected to name another senior presidential secretary for policy, as Chon Pyong-min resigned in a controversy over his personal background last week, later on Tuesday or on Wednesday. Kim To-hyon, chairman of the DLP Songdong-B district chapter, and Kim Chong-nam, a former editorial writer for the Pyonghwa newspaper, are talked of to fill the post.

Ruling Party To Cut Secretariat Staff

SK2002052593 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 20 Feb 93 p 2

[Text] The ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] has decided to reduce the size of its secretariat by half at the instructions of president-elect Kim Yong-sam, who is also the party president. According to the plan finalized by a DLP special committee yesterday, the 1,500 staffers at the central secretariat will be reduced to 750 and the 23 bureaus to 15. The committee will enforce the retrenchment program from next month.

The painstaking plan was ordered by the president-elect, who is determined to cut the traditional collusive link between business tycoons and the ruling party. It is an open secret that big business groups have provided a considerable portion of the operation costs of the DLP, estimated at 3 billion won monthly, in anticipation of favors in return. Kim has repeatedly vowed a sweeping anti-corruption drive after his inauguration and has thought that the ruling party should set an example, said Rep. Kim Yong-ku, DLP secretary general who heads the special committee.

Kim said, "To keep the promise, we will have to take pains applying a mess to our overweight party apparatus." The DLP secretariat was overstaffed due to the 1990 three-party merger. In January 1990, the ruling Democratic Justice Party led by President No Tae-u merged with Kim Yong-sam's Reunification Democratic Party and Kim Chong-pil's New Democratic Republican Party to ensure a comfortable majority in the National Assembly.

The DLP secretary general said that under the austerity plan, the three deputy secretary generals at party headquarters will be reduced to one and the three policy-making bureaus will be incorporated into one. The DLP

also decided to exclude from its payroll the cadre members in charge of women and youth affairs at its 237 district chapter offices nationwide.

Senior Presidential Secretary Rejoins DLP

SK1902125293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0836 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 19 (YONHAP)—Senior presidential secretary for political affairs Kim Chung-kwon rejoined the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] on Friday. Kim was chairman of the DLP's Uljin district chapter in North Kyongsang Province until October, when he resigned with the birth of a politically neutral cabinet.

Charges Against Election Law Violators Dropped

SK2202042093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0302 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 22 (YONHAP)—The Seoul District Prosecutor's office suspended Monday the indictment of Rep. Chong Chu-il of the United People's Party, on charges of violating the presidential election law. The prosecution also deferred the indictment of Rep. Cho Sun-hwan of the same party and dropped election charges against 10 active and former lawmakers, including Reps. Choe Hyong-u of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] and Han Kwang-ok of the main opposition Democratic Party [DP]. A prosecution source said it was decided to suspend Chong's indictment because he had shown repentance for announcing the results of an opinion poll before the election, in violation of the law. Cho was not indicted for giving voters free tours because the main figure behind the incident hadn't been caught, he said. Charges that Choe made a speech supporting Kim Yong-sam at a rally of one of Kim's private organizations were dropped because he strongly denied the charges and there was no evidence. Han and two DP lawmakers were cleared of charges that they had instigated DP members to break into the office of a private DLP organization and steal documents because no evidence had been found.

UPP Loses Status as Parliamentary Group

SK2002063193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0321 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 20 (YONHAP)—The United People's Party [UPP] lost its status as a parliamentary negotiating group Saturday when former secretary-general Rep. Kim Hyo-yong and six other UPP lawmakers announced their departure. The six are Song Kwang-ho, Yi Kun-yong, Kim Tu-sop, Kim Hae-sok, Pak Chae-sang and Kim Chin-yong. Party Spokesman Rep. Pyon Chong-il and two or three other UPP lawmakers are expected to leave the party next week, sources said. As a result of Saturday's departures, the UPP has practically ceased to be a political party in the National Assembly as the number of its seats dwindled to 17, three short of the requirement to maintain its status as a negotiating group.

In the press conference, Kim Hyo-yong said he and his fellow lawmakers who left the party Saturday had never discussed their future plans and he believed each one would follow his own path according to his political convictions and beliefs. Kim did not categorically rule out the possibility of forming a new party, hinting that there was talk of forming an independent group around Rep. Chong Chu-yong or forming a new party. Kim said the UPP's split had resulted from discord brought on by different elements of the party.

But the downward slide of the United People's Party actually began when its founder, billionaire politician Chong Chu-yong, suffered a crushing defeat in the Dec. 18 presidential election. The party was founded little more than a year ago by the 78-year-old Chong as a political vehicle for the founder of the giant Hyundai Business Group to run for president. In an initial test as a political party, the UPP made an impressive performance in the March 24 general elections, grabbing 31 seats in the National Assembly and becoming the second largest opposition party.

Buoyed by the heady success, Chong went all out, allegedly misusing a slush fund of Hyundai group companies, making "irresponsible" and scathing remarks against fellow candidates, and allowing his campaign workers to violate the presidential election law. After he had been indicted without physical detention on charges of embezzlement and election law violations, Chong suddenly announced his retirement, reneging on his promise of providing the UPP with 200 billion won for the development of the party.

Chong also reportedly urged his followers to leave the party to join President-elect Kim Yong-sam's efforts to build a "New Korea." Rebuffed by the Democratic Liberal Party, Chong later denied having issued such a statement. Nevertheless, many UPP lawmakers, reading what has come to be known as the "Chong mind," began to abandon the party while Rep. Kim Tong-kil and others tried desperately to hold the fort.

Only last week, the party elected Rep. Kim Tong-kil to be chairman and he approached Chong for last-ditch negotiations for possible financial support from Chong, who seemingly has unlimited funds for political activities. Chong was reported to have spurned Kim's request. Kim said Saturday he would continue to lead the party even if there were only 10 lawmakers left and it lost its status as a parliamentary group.

Chong Chu-yong To Resign National Assembly Seat

SK2202141393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0640 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 22 (YONHAP)—Chong Chu-yong, founder of the United People's Party [UPP], will resign his National Assembly seat this week to complete his retirement from politics, former UPP spokesman Pyon Chong-il said Monday. Chong, who announced his exit

from the political scene on Feb. 9, delivered his plan to leave the National Assembly before boarding a plane to Singapore at 12:15 P.M., Pyon told a quickly organized news conference in the Kyobo building.

Chong's resignation of his national constituency seat will be submitted by Rep. Chong Chang-hyon in a day or two, Pyon said. Chong, a former vice president of Hyundai Heavy Industries Co., left the UPP on Thursday. Actress Kang Pu-cha, No. 8 in the UPP's national constituency list, will succeed to Chong's seat. Chong, founder of the Hyundai Business Group, is scheduled to tour Southeast Asia, including Singapore and Malaysia, on business for 15 days, informed sources said.

Former DP Spokesman Sentenced 22 Feb

SK2202143093 Seoul YONHAP in English 1053 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 22 (YONHAP)—Kim Pu-kyom, former vice spokesman of the opposition Democratic Party [DP], prosecuted on charges of violating the National Security Law, was sentenced on Monday to one year in prison with a stay of execution for two years. Kim was arrested last November on two counts of National Security Law violation charges: Failure to report to authorities about his knowledge of a spy, Ms. Yi Son-sil, from the North and meeting with her.

At a trial at the Seoul district criminal court, the presiding judge said that although the defendant claimed he did not know she was a North Korean spy, it was recognizable that Kim knew who she was. The court based the belief on the fact that Yi once told Kim, "The North thinks good of you," a statement which the court said was suggestive of her being from the North.

The court, however, found him not guilty of meeting with a North Korean spy inasmuch as "it is hard to say the defendant met Yi Son- sil with the intent of serving the interests of North Korea." Kim Pu-kyom was accused of meeting Yi Son-sil on about ten occasions around the time he ran in the 1988 general elections from the Seoul Dongjak-a District on the ticket of the now defunct Hangyore Democratic Party.

DPRK Asks PRC To Treat Kim Chong-il as State Head

SK2302014993 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 23 Feb 93 p 2

[Text] It appears that the PRC Government will treat North Korea's Kim Chong-il, who will visit the PRC around early March, as a head of state. This hints that the procedures for Kim Chong-il's power succession are drawing near, according to PRC and Western diplomats. North Korea has asked the PRC to hold protocol functions applicable for a head of state although Workers Party of Korea Secretary Kim Chong-il has not officially and completely ascended to power yet, a PRC Government official said.

According to NAEWOE NEWS AGENCY in Seoul, meanwhile, North Korea's Kim Il-song urged in person on 22 February all the youths to uphold Kim Chong-il with loyalty by single-mindedly rallying around Kim Chong-il. This draws our attention. In a letter to the Eighth Congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, Kim Il-song urged: "Just as the first generation, who had pioneered a glorious road of Korean revolution, struggled by firmly uniting around the leader [yongdoja], all the youths should uphold the party's leadership with loyalty by single-mindedly rallying around Kim Chong-il."

Envoy to PRC: 'Senior' PRC Official To Visit

SK2302064493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0604 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Hong Kong, Feb. 23 (YONHAP)—A senior member of the Chinese Government will make an official visit to Seoul this year, South Korean Ambassador to Beijing No Chae-won said Monday. No told a seminar on Korea-China relations, sponsored by the Asia Society, that preparations were under way, but who the visitor would be and when he would visit depended on the political situation in China.

Korea and China had developed economic and trade relations since the turn of the year, but in the future their relations should grow into other areas for the development of the Northeast Asian region, he said. He proposed setting up an inter-governmental consultative body to draw up and push plans for joint economic development in Northeast Asia.

PRC Economic Delegation Arrives in Seoul 22 Feb

SK2202114793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0747 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 22 (YONHAP)—The largest Chinese economic delegation to visit South Korea since the normalization of ties last year arrived in Seoul on Monday. The 44 delegates from Beijing city include deputy Mayor Zhang Baifa and were invited by the Korea Foreign Trade Association.

They will attend a dinner hosted by Kim On-yong, the vice president of the International Olympic Committee, on Monday evening. Zhang, during his visit to Korea, aims at garnering Korean support for Beijing's bid to host the 2000 Summer Olympics and Kim has promised cooperation, a Kim aide said.

Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday morning in Seoul and Tuesday evening in Taegu with Korean businessmen to invite them to invest in China and to explain 33 projects in Beijing, including subway construction, subway rolling stock manufacturing, automobile parts

manufacturing and transportation. The delegation is to return to China on Sunday [28 February].

Propose 200 Joint Ventures

SK2302091493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0805 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 23 (YONHAP)—Beijing city proposed over 200 joint projects worth 2 billion U.S. dollars to South Korean companies on Tuesday. A Beijing government investment promotion team, meeting a group of local businessmen, recommended construction of highways, subways, container transportation centers, financial centers and shopping centers in Beijing as areas of joint venture.

Beijing has favorable conditions for foreign investment as it is the nation's center of politics and information and is better equipped with transportation, electricity and communications than other parts of China, a team spokesman said. Other proposed joint projects include commercial facilities, tourism, real estate, machinery and automobiles.

ROK To Provide PRC Nuclear Safety Technology

SK2302092493 Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 23 Feb 93 p 14

[Text] The Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute signed an agreement with the China Nuclear Energy Institute on providing technological assistance in the safety of nuclear reactors. According to this agreement, the Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute will provide technological assistance to the China Nuclear Energy Institute, such as computerized safety inspection of the 600,000 kw class light-water reactor nuclear power plant that the China Nuclear Energy Institute is planning to build. This technological assistance agreement is significant in that it opens practical ways for technological cooperation in the nuclear energy field between the ROK and China at the level of research institutes.

Seoul, Taipei To Resume Negotiations on Ties

SK2202030593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0009 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 22 (YONHAP)—Negotiations to establish informal relations with Taiwan will resume in the middle of March, a South Korean Government official said Monday. "The government's position that it is desirable to establish informal relations with Taipei at an early date is unchanged. The government is positively considering the dispatch of a delegation to Taiwan for the negotiations in the middle of March," he said.

Seoul and Taipei severed diplomatic relations in August last year on the normalization of ties between Seoul and Beijing. Since then, Seoul and Taiwan have sought to establish informal relations, but the flying of the Taiwanese flag by a school here caused a friction and stopped the negotiations. "The two governments have a similar view that it is necessary to form a new relationship," the official said. Korea is to ban the flying of the Taiwanese flag and calling Taiwan "free China," but will accept other requests, he said.

ROK Denies Visa for Japan Socialist Party Chairman

SK2002020893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0115 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 20 (YONHAP)—South Korea will not issue a visa for Sadao Yamahana, chairman of the Japan Socialist Party, because of his party's politics, a government source said Saturday. The Socialist Party had a North Korea-first policy, the source said, but hoped to improve relations with South Korea by sending Yamahana to Seoul and Party Vice Chairman Kanju Sato to Kim Yong- sam's inauguration. Sato will be allowed to enter Korea to attend the inauguration at the invitation of the Korea-Japan Cooperation Committee.

The party had altered its politics by recognising the existence of the Seoul-Tokyo Basic Treaty at a party conference recently, but the change was very ambiguous, the source said, speaking on condition of anonymity. Unless the change became policy, South Korea would continue to reject the party's overtures, he predicted.

The Socialist Party officially denies that a time bomb set by North Korean agent Kim Hyon-hui blew up a South Korean jetliner in 1987, and refuses to join the South Korea-Japan Parliamentary Union. Attempts to improve ties with Seoul using a connection with Kim Yong-sam without real changes in party policy were doomed, he forecast. Former Party Chairman Masashi Ishibashi visited South Korea in 1988 at Kim's invitation when Kim was chairman of the Reunification Democratic Party and paid a courtesy call on President No Tae-u.

Samsung Sells Synchronous DRAM Technology to Japan

SK2302034193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0238 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 23 (YONHAP)—Samsung Electronic Co. announced Tuesday that it will be the first South Korean company to export ultra-modern technology to Japan. On Monday, Samsung and OKI Electric Industry Co. signed an agreement of technical collaboration and licensing of Samsung's synchronous 16-mega DRAM (dynamic random access memory) chip technology, a Samsung spokesman said. Under the technology tie-up agreement, Samsung expands cooperation of various applications of synchronous technology and development of 16-mega chips with OKI, and the partners will together mass-produce the next-generation memory chips, he said.

Samsung's home-grown synchronous skill increases data processing speed to more than four times the rate of

existing DRAM chips, the spokesman said. The technology boosts the relatively slow DRAM speed to match the rising speeds of central processing units, and unlike other DRAM chips that have a separate controller, synochronous memory chips can respond to system commands.

Samsung plans to show off a sample sometime next month and start mass-production in the second half of the year, about the same time as NEC of Japan, which also recently developed the technology. Samsung and NEC are in the same line in developing synchronous skill and are to be tested on the competitiveness of their finished products, the spokesman said. OKI, whose mainstay is 1-mega and 4-mega DRAM chips and communications equipment, marked sales of 4.3 trillion won (5.4 bilion U.S. dollars) last year, of which sales of semiconductors accounted for 976 million dollars.

'Little Progress' Made in ROK-Japan Tech Exchange

SK2102030293 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 21 Feb 93 p 9

[Text] Technological cooperation and economic exchanges between Korea and Japan are showing little progress as Seoul suffered a projected $7.9 billion massive trade shortfall with Tokyo last year. Imports of technology from Japan are on the decline since Korea introduced 354 technologies in 1988, according to figures released by the Korea-Japan Economic Association. Last year, 185 technologies came from Japan, a continued decrease from 343 in 1989, 333 in 1990 and 276 in 1991.

The estimates show that Korea has not made any breakthrough in the transfer of technology even though its trade deficit with Japan far exceeded its total trade setback of $4.92 billion last year. Government officials and businessmen attributed an immediate cause of the pending issues between the two countries to Japan's lukewarm response to Seoul's demand for more technologies and imports of domestic goods.

But a more real problem lies in Korea's industrial and trade structure. Korea has been heavily dependent on capital goods imports from Japan and has massively relied on Japanese technology, neglecting investment in its own research and development.

Officials at the Korea Foreign Trade Association (KFTA) said that the Korean economy is too dependent on Japan, thus deepening the structural imbalance with it. They stressed that Korea will have to go all-out to invite Japanese firms in order to promote technological transfer from the island country. They also said that Korea must make every effort to develop new technologies. In order to improve the deepening trade imbalance, President No Tae-u and Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa agreed to establish a Korea-Japan technological cooperation foundation in both countries January 1992. The Korean side foundation was founded last September and the Japanese one was established last December.

But the Japanese side does not show much interest in carrying out the governments' initiatives, considering that the Japanese foundation has yet to set up its operation office. Some businessmen already voiced concerns that the Japanese are just paying lip service in their desperate attempt to avoid loud criticism arising from the structural trade imbalance which disfavors Korea. Exchanges in the field of technology in relation to the cooperation foundation project cannot be put into motion because of objections from the Japan-Korea Economic Association. The exchanges are planned for the development of small and medium-sized companies.

Daily Laments ROK-Japan Trade Difficulties

SK2002043993 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 20 Feb 93 p 6

[Text] True economic cooperation between two nations implies that each side will benefit from the relationship, based on the principle of reciprocity. Korea and Japan have long professed their advocacy of this principle whenever they have discussed bilateral economic relations. In fact, however, the trade imbalance between the two has steadily grown in Tokyo's favor. Last year, for example, Korea's trade deficit with Japan was $7.86 billion—compared with a $4.9 billion overall trade deficit with all its other trading partners.

Some even suspect that the imbalance is the result of Japan's determination to have its neighbors remain economically inferior. Whatever truth there may be in such an allegation, it is unfortunate to see Japan's reluctance to rectify this situation. Some Japanese insist that it is up to Korea to solve the problem by better exploring Japanese markets. This may be partly true. Our industrial structure, which has become quite dependent on Japan, also may be partly to blame.

Despite its outward advocacy of trade liberalization, Japan seems to have actually reinforced protectionist trade practices by taking advantage of various administrative and other restrictions. Even in the area of import tariffs, Japan has maintained higher levels than the United States and the European Community [EC]. This leads one to be skeptical about Tokyo's intentions—as to whether it really intends to live up to its talk of free trade in a manner becoming of its stature as a major economic power. Rightfully, the Korean government has more often than not urged Japan to take measures to help reduce Seoul's trade deficit with Japan, calling on Tokyo to lower the tariffs which it imposes against Korean products and adding more Korean imports to its Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) list.

Our view is that the Korean government's demands are reasonable. Tokyo's favorable response to these requests will surely benefit the greater cause of the two neighboring countries, a cause that requires closer cooperation

between them for geopolitical and other reasons. In spite of all its promises, Japan has done little to narrow the lopsided Korea-Japan trade imbalance. In addition to its comparatively high import duties, Japan maintains various nontariff restrictions to discourage a greater flow of imports from Korea and other countries. They include import quotas for some textile goods, a stringent import inspection system and restrictive elements in its domestic distribution channels, among others.

If Japan is truly interested in opening up its markets, it should remove or lower such nontariff barriers as well as drastically expand its tariff reduction schemes. Since there appears little hope that Japan will actively help in narrowing the trade gap, it is imperative for Korea to implement effective, unilateral measures. Although it is difficult to revamp our industrial structure overnight, a concerted and strenuous campaign by the government and industry should be sought, as it will surely pay off handsomely.

Russia Threatens To Cancel ROK Fishing Quota

SK2002081893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0701 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 20 (YONHAP)—Russia told South Korea it is canceling the agreed fishing quota in retaliation to Seoul's illegal entry into its waters and introducing laws barring the vessels' passage in its exclusive fishing zones, Foreign Ministry officials said Saturday. Moscow agreed to 150,000 tons of fishing quota for Seoul but the two sides were unable to settle on the price at last month's talks between fishing companies. Seoul proposed 250 U.S. dollars per ton of pollack but Mwyals here said.

Moscow protested that 25 South Korean fishing vessels are illegally in Okhotsk Sea and sent a notice Feb. 2 it will pass a new law barring such boats from passing through Russian exclusive fishing zones, the officials said. Seoul proposed through the Russian embassy here Feb. 16 that the governments intervene in the price settlement talks and that a multinational negotiation handle violation of Okhotsk fishing zones. Officials said they are waiting for Moscow's 's response.

Group To Visit Somalia To Prepare for PKO Dispatch

SK2302053493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0310 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 23 (YONHAP)—A working-level delegation from the Foreign and Defense Ministries leaves for Somalia to inspect preparations for Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) dispatch, officials said Tuesday. Sin Sung-chol, director of the Foreign Ministry's African Division II, will lead the six-member team on its approximately week-long visit, the officials said.

The United Nations formally asked Seoul to relay its intention to participate in the Somalian PKO to the security council soon, and Seoul must decide whether it will send foot soldiers or just a medical team. The trip is mainly to assess the costs of South Korea's PKO dispatch and gather information on Somalia. The United Nations Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM) is most likely to go in around May, after the U.S.-led multinational forces complete their withdrawal from the African country.

Bills Dishonored by Iran Not Charged Interest

SK2002044393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0207 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 20 (YONHAP)—Foreign Exchange Banks holding bills of exchange dishonored by Iran will not charge the firms that sold them the bills any interest for six months to July 1, the Trade and Industry Ministry said Saturday. The banks will not charge interest on bills of exchange on which Iran has defaulted since Jan. 21, when the ministry asked them suspend the interest. Exporters to Iran recently reported to the ministry that they failed to receive 120 million dollars from Iran, but the ministry assumes that the sum amounts to 340 million dollars.

Korean Air To Begin Seoul-Bombay Route 29 Mar

SK2102025893 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 21 Feb 93 p 3

[Text] Korean Air [KAL] will launch a once-a-week roundtrip flight on the Seoul-Bombay, India, route, beginning March 29. The flight will make a stopover at Bangkok, a KAL spokesman said yesterday.

A 258-seat A300-600 jetliner will leave Seoul at 10:15 a.m. Mondays, arriving in Bombay at 5 p.m. the same day. The return flight will depart from the Indian city at 6:35 p.m. (local time) Mondays and land at Kimpo International Airport at 8:30 a.m. Tuesdays. The new route, to be made possible under an aviation agreement between Seoul and New Delhi to go into effect March 1, will raise the number of cities Korean Air serves to 44 in 21 countries.

DPRK Hopes To Promote Tourism, Bangkok Flights

SK2202024093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0151 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Bangkok, Feb. 22 (YONHAP)—North Korea hopes to attract tourists from Southeast Asia with a weekly air service between Pyongyang and Bangkok due to open in April. Korea Civil Aviation Co. will use aircraft manufactured by the Soviet Union on the Pyongyang-Bangkok route, and a Thai travel agency will sell one-week package tours to North Korea using the flights for around 1 million won (1,256 U.S. dollars).

The "Seven Days in North Korea" package departs from Bangkok's Don Muang International Airport at 0:30 [as received] each Monday, arriving in Pyongyang at 8:30 AM. The tour starts immediately after checking in at the

Koryo Hotel with city sightseeing, which includes a trip on the subway and a visit to the Chuche Tower. Chuche is North Korean leader Kim Il-song's hard-line version of Marxism-Leninism.

On the second day, groups will travel to Kaesong and tour the Truce Village of Panmunjom, Nammun (South Gate), and Yongbok Temple. The second night will be spent in Wonsan for a full day's tour of Mt. Kumgang, followed by a trip to Mt. Myohyang in North Pyongan Province, where groups will be shown over 10,000 gifts given to Kim Il-song and his son, Kim Chong-il, by leaders of 150 countries. The week's stay ends with sightseeing and shopping in the capital before departure by Korea Airline on Monday at 6:10 PM for the six-hour flight back to Bangkok.

A travel agent in Bangkok called the package a bargain for the best lodgings and packed itinerary. Noting more than 50,000 Thai tourists visited South Korea last year, he suggested that the two Koreas develop package tours to both countries to capture more Southeast Asian tourists.

ROK To Join World Convention To Protect Wildlife

SK2002064493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0304 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 20 (YONHAP)—South Korea will join the convention on international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora (CITES) in the first half of this year, the Environment Ministry said Saturday. As a result, all trade in 524 endangered animals and plants will be totally banned, a ministry spokesman said. Export permits and certificates of origin will be needed for trading in 492 species close to extinction, he said. The ministry will seek parliamentary approval of its bid by may to sign the international treaty by June.

CITES, a convention to ban trade in endangered wildlife, went into effect in 1975 and has 118 signatories as of this month. The domestic oriential medicine industry is expected to be hit hard if Korea joins CITES because ingredients such as antlers, bear's gall and tiger bones are protected by the convention. The ministry is to sign the convention after getting some of the ingredients for medicine put on the reserved list to minimize the impact of affiliation with CITES. Trade in items on the reserved list is allowed temporarily, but the signatory should repeal it finally. It will draw up a reserved list and timetable for repeal by April in consulation with the Foreign, and the Health and Social Affairs Ministries and the Forestry Administration, according to the spokesman.

The government had decided to join CITES due to international currents as trade retaliation is most likely if Korea further delays signing, he said. World organizations, including the World Wildlife Fund, asked for punitive measures against Taiwan, China and Korea at a hearing on preservation of the rhinoceros in Washington on Jan. 21, accusing the four nations of using rhino horns in medicine. It was learned that European counties are also urging their people not to buy products from Taiwan, branded an illegal trader of wild animals, in television commercials.

If Korea is seen as a country going against the efforts to preserve animals and plants in the international community, it may face difficulties in trading all other kinds of fauna and flora, and relevant products, he said. Korea has prepared domestic laws to join CITES, but signing is being delayed because some interest groups are opposed to it.

Lawmakers, Farmers Adopt Rice Import Resolution

SK2302012393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0035 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 23 (YONHAP)—Lawmakers representing rural constituencies and farm leaders adopted a joint resolution Monday opposing opening of the South Korean rice market. In the resolution, the 38 members of Nongui-hoe, headed by Rep. Kim Chong-ho of the Democratic Liberal Party, urged the government to strongly oppose importation of rice. "The country shouldn't allow rice imports because it must protect food security, increase farm incomes and preserve the land, and because rice is not only the spiritual root of our culture but a staple income for some 7 million farmers," the resolution said.

Exports to Advanced Countries Decrease

SK2202135793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0311 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 22 (YONHAP)—South Korea's exports to advanced countries have shrunk due to weakened price competitiveness and import restrictions by the United States and European Community, Trade and Industry Ministry officials said Monday. Exports to the United States, Japan and the EC were 38.94 billion U.S. dollars last year, off 1,699 million dollars from 40.64 billion dollars in 1991. The share of exports the three markets in all exports was 70.6 percent in 1987, 68.5 percent in 1988, 66.5 percent in 1989, 62.9 percent in 1990, and 56.6 percent in 1991. The figure fell to 50.8 percent last year, the officials said.

Shipments to the United States stopped at 18.09 billion dollars last year, off 2.5 percent from 18.56 billion dollars in 1991. This compares with 21.4 billion dollars in 1988. Korea saw export losses of 3 billion dollars in the U.S. market over the last four years, the officials said.

Exports to Japan reached 13.46 billion dollars in 1989, and then dropped three straight years to 11.59 billion dollars last year, down 6.1 percent from 12.36 billion dollars in 1991. Exports to the EC were no better, stopping at 9,255 million dollars last year, off 4.9 percent from 9,728 million dollars a year earlier.

Korea ran up trade deficits with all three markets—197 million dollars with the United States, 7,858 million

dollars with Japan, and 356 million dollars with the EC. The deficit of 8,411 million dollars with the three markets was 1.6 times Korea's total trade deficit of 5,144 million dollars in 1992. Korean exports are losing out to goods from rival traders due to their ailing competitiveness, the officials said, adding that more imports restriction like U.S. and EC anti-dumping rulings on Korean products also cut export figures.

Minister Criticizes Regional Economic Blocs

SK1902125193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0816 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 19 (YONHAP)—Global economy leaders like the European Community and the United States will split the world into blocs if they concentrate more on regional economic unions than on successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round, Deputy Premier Choe Kak-kyu criticized in a seminar Friday. That the advanced countries had recently begun to place top priority on economic benefits was well illustrated by their protectionist measures this year, he told a seminar on South Korea's economic diplomacy and strategy.

Choe, who is also economic planning minister, warned against a delay in concluding the Uruguay Round and against the emergence of blocs that will force the South Korean economy into the most difficult decision-making. The deputy premier called these blocs discrimination against non-members that went against South Korea's hopes for free trade expansion under multilateral systems. He suggested that Seoul could consider forming a bloc in East Asia under recent circumstances, saying Korea kept in mind political, historical and economic complimentation in preparing for such a union. Seoul also kept in mind that such a bloc would work positively toward national reunification, Choe told the seminar.

He reiterated that his country had pursued and would continue to pursue market liberalization in services, intellectual property and other areas and said the government was committed to bringing tariffs down to advanced countries' level by next year. Korea is widening to foreign investment in telecommunications, distribution, maritime and insurance markets, and further opening measures were due in the financial sector based on reasonableness and transparency, Choe said.

Tax Revenue Short of Goal First Time Since 1982

SK2302053693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0517 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 23 (YONHAP)—Tax revenue fell short of its target last year for the first time since 1982, and the Finance Ministry blames dull imports and a business slowdown. Revenue from income taxes of salaried workers was 19.3 percent over target last year due to pay hikes averaging 16 percent.

The per capita tax burden grew by 135,000 won, or 15.2 percent, to 1,021,000 won. It was the first time the figure was over 1 million won, according to the ministry's provisional data on tax collection for 1992, released Tuesday. National tax revenue was 32,155.9 billion won minus subsidies for local governments, falling 206.5 billion won or 0.6 percent short of the budget goal. The ministry blamed weak economic growth, lower tariff revenue due to slow growth of imports and stabilization of real estate prices for the shortfall.

Government projected real economic growth at 8 percent when drawing up the budget for fiscal 1992, about 3 percentage points higher than it actually was. Imports were off 5.4 percent at 81.8 billion U.S. dollars and import duties were 8.4 percent down from 1991 at 3,145.6 billion won.

Land prices rose 12.78 percent, compared with 20.58 percent in 1990, and land deals shrank 18.1 percent, weakening tax collection on transfer income and profits. Tax and non-tax income, such as fines and dividends from state-invested corporations, combined exceeded the target of 33,501.7 billion won by 407 billion won, or 1.2 percent. Tax revenue was estimated at 18.9 percent of national income last year, up 0.3 percentage points from 1991.

Government Discusses Financial Restructuring

SK2302085693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0723 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 23 (YONHAP)—Government officials and researchers met Tuesday to check progress in drawing up the grand project to restructure the nation's financial industry. Finance Minister Yi Yong-man was briefed by the research committee for the reorganization of the financial systems under the umbrella of the Council for the Development of the Financial Industry, and then he thanked committee members for their research efforts since the government inititated the study in November. The reorganization of the financial system was a project that the new government should push, Yi told the committee members, urging them to complete their research quickly so it could give momentum to the Korean financial industry. Committee Chairman Pak Yong-chol told Yi five subcommittees held meetings and seminars every week and would finish their work as soon as possible.

Also at the meeting were first and second assistant ministers, director-generals of treasury, securities, insurance and international finance bureaus and national savings coordinators. Four of the 16 committee members attended: Prof. Kim Pyong-chu of Sogang Unviersity, Prof. Yi Chae-ung of Songkyunkwan University, Prof. Yun Kye-sop of Seoul National University, and Nam Sang-u, vice chairman of Korea Development Institute.

The committee will finish reviewing its research by mid-March to report to the new government in late

March. The government is likely to hold meetings of the Council for the Development of the Financial Industry from April to finalize the plan by late June. The research covers areas such as financial structure, banking and non-banking sectors, the securities market and its organizations, and credit control. The committee will make multiple proposals on each issue for the government to select one from as its policy. It will recommend against prodding financial institutions to become larger and to specialize.

The government is to reshape the financial industry in three phases, reducing cross-ownership of banks this year and holding off on sticky issues as long- and mid-term projects. Korea will undertake Phase III financial market liberalization, such as deregulation of interest rates, redrawing of loan and savings systems, and bond market opening to foreigners, as early as possible.

Samsung Develops Digital Video Disc Technology

SK2102015793 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 18 Feb 93 p 9

[Text] The Samsung Group has developed digital-video disc recorder (D-VDR) technology designed to record and play back digital video using a green laser spectrum and magneto-optical recording, the group announced yesterday. The Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology (SAIT), the research and development arm of the Samsung business group, has succeeded in developing what it calls the "next generation video recorder" with dramatically improved compactness and recordablility, the institute said.

In order to overcome laser disc players' (LDPs') inherent drawbacks such as bulky disc size and the lack of recording capability, SAIT devised a 13-cm magneto-optical disc (MOD). The MOD capacity is two or three times larger than an LDP. Current laser discs with a diameter of 30cm can record a maximum 60 minutes of analog video on a side. But Samsung's D-VDR can read and write 120 minutes of video on a compact disc, SAIT researchers said.

The critical part of the new video recorder is its green laser, or so-called "second harmonic generation (SHG)" laser, which allows the recorder to increase memory capacity. "With D-VDR, people will be able to not only record and play movies, but also make and edit home movies with a disc camcorder. Since it features a compact disc size and portable D-VDR, "Note-Video-Man" is possible if combined with a color LCD panel," SAIT said. The new technology is the result of 60 researchers working over a three-year period and an investment of more than 25 million dollars in research and development, SAIT said.

In addition to green laser technology and magneto-optical disk of short track pitch, SAIT applied data compression algorithm, high density recording and the system integration aspects of those technologies. With additional development, Samsung is planning to launch commercial production of the technology from 1995, the institute disclosed.

Oil Refinery Develops Fungi Sterilizer

SK2102015993 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 20 Feb 93 p 8

[Text] A fungi sterilizer, which removes and prevents the development of fungi, a major cause of allergy and respiratory illnesses, has been developed by a local corporate research team, the first time for such an achievement in Korea. Yukong Ltd., the nation's largest oil refinery, announced yesterday the successful development of mold-destroying material after 10 months' extensive study by its Ulsan Research Center at a total cost of 700 million won ($880,000). "This is only the second such success case in the world, after Japan, which started marketing a similar product named 'Cleanser' last year," a member of the center's biotechnology team said.

Since June 1991, the research team has collected 30 different kinds of fungi and studied their life modes and other characteristics, he said. A recent series of experiments in public restaurants and households has proven the effectiveness of the latest product. It has been widely known among researchers that natural algae, including brown seaweeds, have fungi-resisting contents, the researcher said, adding that their product is also the chemical mixture of abstracts from algae.

Yukong plans to put its latest product on the market by April in air-spray containers. The sterilizer will likely maintain its effectiveness for three months with one spray on furniture, kitchen sinks, wallpapers, carpets, and even insides of shoes, a company spokesman said.

Burma

Khin Nyunt: Nobel Laureates' Activity 'Abnormal'

BK2102094893 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Excerpts] Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], this morning inspected South Okkalapa Township Basic High School No. 1, North Okkalapa Hospital, and a construction project of the Institute of Medicine No. 2. He discussed needed particulars with responsible personnel and gave instructions.

The secretary-1 of the SLORC, accompanied by Yangon [Rangoon] Mayor U Ko Lay, chairman of the Yangon City Development Committee; Colonel Sein Htwa, commander of the No. 77 Light Infantry Division; Col. Thura Myint Maung, deputy commander of the Yangon Military Command; Lieutenant Colonel Pe Nyein, director general of the Office of SLORC, and responsible personnel arrived at South Okkalapa Township Basic High School No.1 at 0930 in the morning. [passage omitted]

After the inspection, the secretary-1 met with educators at Thiriyadana Hall and delivered an address. [passage omitted]

He later stressed the country's political situation. He said the SLORC is striving to achieve its political goal—that is, the emergence of a new constitution, which is necessary for the country. He continued that under the prevailing situation, only a government that emerges from a firm constitution can lead the country with stability and peace in the long run. Therefore, the SLORC is carrying out tasks step by step and systematically for the emergence of a new constitution, which is very important for the country. He added that the National Convention that will lay down basic policies for the new constitution is now being held successfully. The delegates representing political parties, elected representatives, national races, peasants, workers, intelligentsia, technocrats, public service personnel, and special invitees are attending the National Convention according to their ratios. They are coordinating and discussing matters according to their respective roles.

He said the SLORC is carrying out responsibilities, hand in hand with the public, for peace and stability in the country, and to restore law, order and tranquility. He also stressed that there is a unique tranquility and stability in the country. He mentioned that economic development, social development, and development of national races in the border regions is being carried out with great momentum, acceleration, and success.

He also said there are no restrictions on human rights, no torturing, and no religious discrimination at all in Myanmar [Burma]. People have been working happily with the state government for the development of the country for more than four years.

He added that while the country is tranquil and Myanmar is beginning to develop from all sides, some external organizations and broadcasting stations, with jealous and malicious intent, have been trying for quite some time to destroy the peace and stability of Myanmar. Now, one can see that a group of so-called Nobel laureates, through the country from the other side [Thailand], met with arm-wielding terrorist insurgents—a minority group—from Myanmar and took part in [anti-government] activities, while using human rights as a disguise.

He stated, therefore, that the activity of the Nobel laureates, with the intent of destroying Myanmar's stability and peace—while siding with arm-wielding terrorist insurgents, a minority group, and using human rights as an excuse—is an abnormal act. [passage omitted]

Editorial: 'Pay No Heed' to Laureates' Activity

BK2302065793 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 0140 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Editorial: "Remove Abnormal Activities; Continue Projects With Enthusiasm" appearing in the 23 February issue of the Rangoon paper LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN; from the "Press Review" program]

[Text] Speaking at South Okkalapa Township Basic High School No. 1 during an inspection tour on 20 February, Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], said that while the country is tranquil and Myanmar [Burma] is beginning to develop from all sides, some external organizations and broadcasting stations, with jealous and malicious intent, have been trying for some time to undermine the peace and stability of Myanmar.

He said at present a group of so-called Nobel laureates have come to Myanmar through the country on the other side [Thailand] and met with armed insurgents who constitute a minority group in the country and have engaged in activity under the guise of human rights. He said: Therefore, the activity of the Nobel laureates is an abnormal act with the intent of destroying Myanmar's stability and peace. They are siding with armed terrorist insurgents, a minority group, and using human rights as an excuse.

While making utmost efforts for peace and tranquillity and development in the country, the SLORC is at the same time striving to formulate an enduring state constitution. A study of Myanmar foreign policy shows that Myanmar has been adhering fully to the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and conducting friendly relations with neighboring countries as well as other countries. History has shown that in practicing an independent and active foreign policy and upholding the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, Myanmar has never interfered in the affairs of other countries. While Myanmar is engaged in development tasks with full enthusiasm, evil external influences are falsely accusing

Myanmar of human rights violations and are trying to create economic and political difficulties for the country.

Recently there have been political activities involving seven so-called Nobel laureates who visited Myanmar through the country on the other side and met with insurgents in the insurgent camps. No matter how much the external organizations try to create political and economic difficulties, the state shall forge ahead according to its set stand and objectives. No matter who tries to create difficulties for Myanmar, political, economic and social programs set up by the state government will continue to be implemented with enthusiasm.

In brief, we shall pay no heed to the activities of those jealous and malicious people who are attempting to create difficulties while Myanmar is doing its utmost for development, peace, and prosperity in the country, and shall continue our tasks with enthusiasm.

Work Committee Says Plenary Session To Be Held

BK2302010693 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] The sixth meeting of the National Convention Convening Work Committee [NCCWC] was held at 1600 today at the NCCWC Office in the Kyaikkasan Grounds.

The meeting was attended by U Aung Toe, NCCWC chairman, and members of the committee. Chairman U Aung Toe presided over the meeting and U Aye Maung, secretary of the NCCWC, acted as secretary of the meeting.

Speaking at the meeting, the presiding chairman said reports on suggestions on prescription of chapter headings and the basic principles for drafting the state constitution have been received from the various groups of delegates to the National Convention, and that this meeting is to coordinate and decide on the date and agenda for the plenary session of the National Convention and to designate members of the Panel of Chairmen to chair the plenary sessions on the prescribed dates.

The meeting ended at 1710 after the chairman and members of the NCCWC coordinated and discussed on the programs to be carried out.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Brunei

India To Strengthen Economic Ties

BK1702035893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] India and Brunei have decided to strengthen their economic cooperation. The minister of state for external affairs, Mr. Salman Khurshid, met the sultan of Brunei, Mr. Hassanal Bolkiah, in Bandar Seri Begawan yesterday and discussed steps to increase trade and investments between the two countries. Our Southeast Asia correspondent reports that the sultan appreciated India's economic reforms. The sultan said there could be many areas for mutually profitable investments especially in petrochemicals, fertilizers, agro-based and construction industries.

Mr. Salman Khurshid also met the foreign minister, Mr. Mohamed Bolkiah, and industries minister, Mr. Abdul Rahman, and invited Brunei to invest in India.

Malaysia

Keidanren Delegation Arrives 21 Feb

OW2102121593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0930 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb. 21 KYODO—A high-powered business mission from Japan's Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) arrived Sunday [21 February] in Malaysia, the second leg of its Southeast Asian tour.

The 18-member mission, led by Keidanren Chairman Gaishi Hiraiwa, will confer Monday with Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed following separate meetings with International Trade and Industry Minister Rafidah Aziz and local business leaders.

Topics expected to be discussed during the meeting with Mahathir include the controversial East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC), proposed in 1990 by the Malaysian leader, in connection with growing economic regionalism in North America and Europe.

Japan remains noncommittal to the concept, which is strongly opposed by the United States as an exclusive trade bloc.

The mission, which visited Thailand last week, will leave Wednesday for Manila, the third and final stop on the nine-day trip.

Thailand, Malaysia, and the Philippines are members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Keidanren sent a similar mission to ASEAN's three other members—Brunei, Indonesia, and Singapore—last November.

Leaders Worry Over Yen's Rise

OW2202130693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1233 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb. 22 KYODO—Japanese business leaders visiting Malaysia expressed serious concern Monday [22 February] over the steep appreciation of the yen against the U.S. dollar.

Shoichiro Toyoda, chairman of Japan's top automaker Toyota Motor Corp., said, "We are seriously worried because we cannot raise prices of export cars because of the yen's appreciation."

Tadahiro Sekimoto, president of major electronic firm NEC Corp., complained about the rising value of the yen, noting it is not natural because the U.S. economy is improving.

Toyoda and Sekimoto are members of a mission sent by the powerful Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) on a tour of Southeast Asian countries.

Mission members also were worried about the effect of the high yen on the stock market, sources in the delegation said.

The U.S. dollar closed at a record low of 116.85 yen in Tokyo on Monday while the key Nikkei average on the Tokyo Stock Exchange tumbled 189.42 points to 16,820.61.

Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of Keidanren and head of the mission, earlier told reporters the Bank of Japan should intervene to check the yen's sharp rise.

The previous round of the yen's dramatic appreciation in 1985 forced Japanese enterprises to build plants overseas, notably in Southeast Asian countries, sparking remarkable economic growth in these nations.

Mahathir Asks for Infrastructure Aid

OW2202142393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1352 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb. 22 KYODO—Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamed wants more yen loans at favorable terms from Japan to help upgrade its straining infrastructure, Japanese business leaders, who met him Monday [22 February], said.

Mahathir also told a delegation from Japan's Keidanren business federation that Malaysia will like to see more Japanese investments in infrastructure development, said Keidanren managing director Kazuo Nukazawa.

Briefing reporters after the meeting earlier Monday, he said Mahathir pointed out that improved infrastructure will not only benefit Malaysia, but Japanese companies which have invested heavily in the country.

Mahathir is also eager for Japan to change or reconsider its current criteria for Official Development Assistance (ODA) because Malaysia's national income level is almost at the cutoff ceiling mark for low-interest loans.

He made that request during Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's visit to Malaysia in January, and Miyazawa had offered to send a "policy dialogue" mission to Malaysia later this year to discuss this.

Mahathir suggested that Japan consider Malaysia's income level in yen instead of dollars because in yen terms, Malaysia's per capita income has remained relatively unchanged.

According to Nukazawa, Mahathir jokingly proposed that Japan make loans to Malaysia at the 2.5 percent current official discount rate.

Under its ODA, Japan has made 14 packages of yen loans to Malaysia and the lowest interest rate on a package provided in 1990 was 2.9 percent per annum.

Keidanren Chairman Gaishi Hiraiwa said at a news conference that Mahathir hopes about 10 percent of future investment will be channeled toward much-needed infrastructure development.

Malaysia's already strained infrastructure has been buckling in recent months as years of rapid economic growth take a toll, with the latest problem being frequent power brownouts that will last until next year.

Hiraiwa, however, allayed Malaysian fears that the year-long power crisis will affect potential investors, including those from Japan, which is now among the top foreign investors in the country.

"Japanese business confidence is not shaken by the power crisis since power supply is only one of the many investment factors to be considered," he said.

Malaysian International Trade and Industry Minister Rafidah Aziz, who met Monday with the delegation, offered her assurance that the power crisis will be short.

Rafidah had also asked the delegation to use its influence to help Malaysia counter the growing campaign against tropical timber in Japan.

Malaysia, among the world's biggest producers of hardwood, is concerned that recent moves by several prefectures in Japan to ban the use of tropical timber in government buildings may spread nationwide.

The Keidanren delegation, which arrived Sunday, is in Malaysia on a four-day visit on the second leg of its tour to Thailand, Malaysia and the Philippines.

Ruling Party Endorses Coalition With USNO

BK2002134493 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 19 Feb 93 p 2

[Text] Kota Kinabalu, Thurs.—The Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) [Sabah United Party] Supreme Council has decided that the party form a coalition government with United Sabah National Organisation (USNO).

PBS Deputy President and Sabah Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Yong Teck Lee said the party had made the offer to USNO and it was up to its leaders to make their decision.

Speaking to reporters after opening a Sabah Economic Development Corporation (Sedco) exhibition here, he said: "Despite the denial by USNO on the proposed coalition, there is no hiding the fact that USNO is aware of the offer."

Although Yong refused to reveal the kind of offer made to USNO, he said a coalition meant that USNO would be given cabinet posts.

"No amount of questioning will make me reveal the offer, but a coalition means sharing of power. You cannot have a coalition without USNO having a post in the state cabinet," he said.

He went further to say that a PBS-USNO coalition government could bring stability to Sabah and, most important of all, help protect the interests of Sabah within Malaysia.

Asked about USNO's imminent expulsion from the Barisan Nasional [BN, National Front] for teaming up with PBS, Yong said such a consequence would be for its (USNO) leaders to consider.

Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad had said that USNO would be expelled from the BN coalition should it opt for a coalition with PBS in Sabah.

USNO, one of the BN component parties in Sabah, has 11 representatives in the State Legislative Assembly, while its former president, Tun Datu Mustapha Datu Harun, is the sole representative from UMNO [United Malays National Organization].

USNO President Datu Amir Kahar Tun Mustapha denied after the party's Supreme Council meeting last week that his party was involved in the coalition.

He also denied that the proposed coalition government with PBS was discussed at the meeting although it was learnt that the main agenda of the meeting at his residence was the PBS offer to join the coalition government.

Meanwhile, PBS and USNO sources said the leaders of both parties were now in the final stages of negotiations to form the coalition government.

USNO is said to have requested for two minister's posts, two assistant minister's posts, and several posts of political secretaries to state ministers. The party had also requested to contest 20 seats in the next state election.

In the PBS camp, one of the three deputy presidents, Datuk Ahmad Bahrom Titingan, is said to be prepared to give up his deputy chief minister's post to USNO and, in return, be made speaker of the State Assembly.

Present Speaker Datuk Hassan Alban Sandukong is believed to have been offered an important post in the state.

Sabah's USNO To Remain in Ruling Coalition

BK2302073693 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] The Sabah-based political party, USNO [United Sabah National Organization], will remain in Barisan Nasional [BN], the ruling National Front. USNO leaders gave the assurance to Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed at a meeting in Kuala Lumpur today. Emerging from the two-hour meeting, USNO President Datu Amir Kahar Tun Datu Mustapha told reporters the party considered itself a component of BN led by Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir.

The meeting at the Prime Minister's Office was attended by seven of the 11 USNO state assemblymen. The meeting was held in the wake of reports that the USNO assemblymen were teaming up with Parti Bersatu Sabah [Sabah United Party], PBS, to form a coalition in the state. Amir Kahar had denied the reports.

Defense Minister: E. Asia Can Outdo NAFTA, EC

BK2202133993 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 20 Feb 93 p 3

[By Syed Abu Bakar]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Fri—East Asia can overtake the western economic blocs of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the European Community (EC) if it can maintain growth at six per cent per annum.

Defence Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak who said this today added that the entrepreneural spirit, innovativeness, good work ethics, skills and good education of East Asians can also contribute to this.

Other factors are technological and infrastructural developments, availability of natural resources, geographical advantages and good transport.

Speaking at the opening of the "Economic Challenges of Asia and Pacific Towards 2000" seminar, he said the gross domestic product (GDP) of East Asian countries, comprising Japan, Korea, Taiwan and the ASEAN members, was only US$110 billion (RM275 billion) [Malaysian ringgit] or 20 per cent of NAFTA's and 38 per cent of the EC's in 1960.

However, the figure rose to US$4000 billion (RM 10,000 billion) or 63 per cent of that of NAFTA and 66 per cent of that of EC in 1990.

He said some economic analysts reasoned that factors such as political and economic stability and cordial relations with other countries were responsible for this development while the Americans claimed that the stability in the region brought about by the presence of the US forces had contributed to this.

Najib said the other factor was the high degree of cooperation among the East Asian countries which had resulted in the sparkling economic performance.

Japan, Korea, Taiwan and the six ASEAN members had made tremendous economic strides in the past years.

He stressed that the pressures of international economic competition would increase by the year 2000 and the challenges would become more complex.

He called on youth leaders in the region to develop certain qualities to enable them to cope with these challenges.

Among the qualities are vision, integrity, decisiveness, good articulation, humaneness, and ability to form national concensus and help shape domestic and international policies.

Najib stressed that they must acquire vast knowledge and training, and make adequate preparation.

He advised aspiring leaders to start by encouraging people to develop positive values.

Authorities Detain 5,000 Illegal Workers

BK2202110493 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] The authorities have detained 5,000 illegal workers under the second phase of the operations to flush out illegal workers, [which] was launched nationwide on the first of this month. Secretary General of the Home Ministry Datuk Abdul Rahim Haji Din said today, of the total, 2,000 have been deported for not having registered during the six-month nationwide exercise last year. The rest are still being detained at 10 detention camps for further investigation.

He said this to reporters after launching a seminar on immigration policy, regulations, and procedures in Kuala Lumpur today. Of those detained, some could have been registered during last year's exercise, but had yet to obtain their passes. The operation, code-named Ops Nyah II Phase II, was launched as an extension of the Ops Nyah II Phase I after the deadline for registration of foreign workers lapsed on June 30 last year.

'New Chapter' in Relations With Hungary Viewed

BK2202121593 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Malaysian Government and people extended a warm welcome to the president of Hungary and his entourage when they arrived in Malaysia last week. The president's wife, Madam Zsuzsanna, was also in the visiting team. A special welcoming ceremony was arranged in Parliament building apart from the usual welcoming formalities at the international airport. Included in the team of Hungarian visitors were 33 members of the corporate sector. The Malaysian Government had arranged appropriate programs for the various groups. A special program of visits and meetings was also arranged for the president's wife.

It is not surprising that trade and economic issues were prominent in the talks between the Hungarian visitors and the Malaysian Government, and the business leaders. Hungary is striving hard to reorientate its national economy after several decades of (?servile) communist methods. Malaysia, is on the other hand, a shining example to all countries of what enterprise an ethnic harmony can achieve. This, too, was also prominent in the address of the Malaysian head of state at the official banquet for the Hungarian president.

His Majesty Sultan Azlan Shah called for a greater volume of trade between the two countries. He cited figures which showed that in 1991, the volume of Malaysian-Hungarian trade was only in the region of U.S.$120 million. The proportion is undoubtedly large. It is, of course, a matter of satisfation that contacts between the two countries have been improving in recent times.

The Malaysian prime minister paid a visit to Budapest in 1987. That event was followed by other visits by Malaysian officials and business people. The vast political changes in Eastern Europe have had a big impact on Hungary, too. The individualism, for which the the Hungarians are said to be (?mooted), did assert itself when they threw out communism. Now they are engaged in the great adventure of dynamic economic development. Their efforts are watched with sympathetic and friendly interest by Malaysia.

Malaysia has officially announced that a Malaysian Embassy will be opened soon in Budapest. This pact would greatly enhance cooperation between the two nations. Many significant agreements have also been signed between the two countries. The partial visa abolition agreement and the air services agreement will be of great use for more tourism, and business contemporaries. The investment guarantee agreement is also appropriate and timely.

The Malaysian community is happy to have played host to the distinguished Hungarian visitors. A new chapter has been opened in relations between Malaysia and Hungary.

Singapore

German Chancellor Arrives for Talks on Trade

LD2202162593 Hamburg DPA in German 1504 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Excerpts] Singapore (DPA)—After his visit to India, Chancellor Helmut Kohl has arrived in the Southeast Asian city state of Singapore today, accompanied by a delegation of German industrialists. During talks with government representatives today, the chancellor will discuss, in particular, questions of regional trade and will

sound out Southeast Asia's position on the economic reforms in China. The focus of the three-day visit to the Southeast Asian Financial and Trade Center will also be the plans for a German trade and industry center.

Klaus Spalcke, Bonn's ambassador in Singapore, described Kohl's twelve-day visit to Asia as a "political signal" for East Asia. Germany would not neglect the rapidly expanding markets in East and Southeast Asia in favor of Eastern Europe. [passage omitted]

Kohl's visit showed Germany's unchanged interest in the Asian-Pacific area, said a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry in Singapore today.

In the run-up to the visit, concern had been expressed in Singapore that Germany might neglect its business contacts in Asia after reunification and in the light of efforts to unify Europe. There are 365 subsidiaries of German companies in Singapore, but the volume of bilateral trade has remained unchanged since 1990. [passage omitted]

Paper Reports Arrival

BK2302101493 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 23 Feb 93 p 1

[Text] German Chancellor Helmut Kohl arrived here last night for a three-day official visit.

He was met at Changi Airport by the Minister for Community Development and for Health, Mr. Yeo Cheow Tong, who is the minister-in-attendance.

Also there to meet him were German Ambassador to Singapore Dr. Karl Spalcke and Singapore's ambassador to Germany Mr. Tony Siddique.

Mr. Kohl, who flew in from India, is accompanied by a delegation of senior government officials, MPs and businessmen.

Today, he is scheduled to have talks with Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong after a ceremonial welcome at the Istana [Palace] and a courtesy call on President Wee Kim Wee.

He will also meet with Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew and go for a harbour tour.

Mr. Goh will host a dinner for him at the Istana.

The German businessmen is his delegation will have a separate meeting with Minister for Trade and Industry, S. Dhanabalan.

Tomorrow, Mr. Kohl is due to have breakfast with leading Singapore businessmen before he leaves for Indonesia.

Kohl Agrees on Aid Projects

LD2302103393 Hamburg DPA in German 0617 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Singapore (DPA)—Germany and Singapore intend to start joint development aid projects for and in the Third World. Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong agreed on this today at the start of their political talks. Initially, the cooperation should extend to infrastructure measures in China and in an unspecified African country, Kohl told journalists during his visit to Singapore. He is on a two-day visit, the second stop on his 12-day tour of Asia. He said there is great mutual interest in further projects.

The chancellor assured his interlocutors in the Asian city state that Europe and Germany will not shut themselves off in a fortress. "This would be fatal particularly for Germany as a country open to the world and one of the largest exporting nations in the world," he said. As a high-technology and Asian financial center Singapore is a "natural partner" for Germany, Kohl said. This is demonstrated particularly by the large number of German firms resident in Singapore. About 300 German firms have production facilities or agencies in the small state between Indonesia and Malaysia with 2.7 million inhabitants.

Kohl announced that he and the Singapore Government agreed upon yearly consultations between their foreign ministers. Furthermore, there are clear signals that firms from Singapore intend to increase investment in eastern Germany.

The parliamentary State Secretary at the Bonn Economic Cooperation Ministry, Hans-Peter Repnik, said that the "German-Singaporean Institute" already in existence is to be expanded into an organization for Third World countries. Talented people from Indonesia and Thailand, for instance, are to be educated in the future under the auspices of this institute in Singapore instead of Germany.

Cambodia

Enemy Offensive in Pursat Said Routed 10 Feb

BK2102040093 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Sources of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] indicated that the Yuon [Vietnamese] aggressors and their puppets gathered nearly 1,000 troops from Brigade 94 and the Pursat provincial forces to attack the liberated zones of Democratic Kampuchea [DK] in Bakan and Leach districts of Pursat Province in an attempt to seize the DK zones.

The reports state that the offensive by the Yuon aggressors and their puppets started on 6 February and was backed by six tanks, various artillery pieces, and a battery of multiple rocket launchers. They attacked us in the vicinity of Pralay and Peam O Prak. The NADK sources further assert that the NADK completely routed this offensive on 10 February. Here are the results of this operation:

I. Destruction:

1. We destroyed a tank of the Yuon and puppets;
2. We destroyed a multiple rocket launcher and a large quantity of assorted weapons, ammunition, and war materiel;
3. We killed 19 enemy soldiers and wounded 48 others.

II. Seizure:

The NADK seized a quantity of assorted weapons, ammunition, and war materiel.

This offensive by the Yuon and puppets against the DK zones has seriously affected the lives and property of the Cambodian people. The people are very angry with and denounce the Yuon aggressors and the puppets who are sowing great destruction on the Cambodian nation and people.

This brutal and barbarous act by the Yuon aggressors and puppets has further made local and foreign opinions realize that the Yuon and their puppets are the violators of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement; they are the ones launching offensives against and attacking the resistance forces; and they are the ones carrying out political terrorist activities to kill people and various political parties.

KR Violations in Kompong Thom Reported

BK2002065693 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] On 14 February in Kompong Thom Province, 12 Khmer Rouge [KR] soldiers from the 417th Division launched activities in (Sralau Thbong) village, Balang commune, Baray district. They shot and killed one of our soldiers from 30th (?Battalion) named (Khon Soeun) and took away a tractor.

The next day, Khmer Rouge soldiers from the 616th Division fired 20 rounds of DK and H-107 shells into a position of our soldiers in Stoung district, wounding (?four).

Kompong Thom, Siem Reap 'Uprising' Reported

BK2302014593 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Report on the uprising by the people and puppet soldiers, policemen, and officials against the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] aggressors and puppet leaders in many areas in Kompong Thom and Siem Reap Provinces:

1. According to a preliminary report from Kompong Thom and Siem Reap Provinces, the people in the liberated and semiliberated zones and areas temporarily controlled by the Yuon aggressors and Phnom Penh faction and the puppet soldiers, policemen, and officials in villages, communes, districts, and the provincial towns of Kompong Thom and Siem Reap Provinces rose up in revolt against the Yuon aggressors and their puppet leaders and lackeys.

2. Especially in Stoung District of Kompong Thom Province, the people in the liberated and semiliberated areas and the areas under the temporary control of the Yuon aggressors cooperated with the Yuon puppet regime's soldiers and officials in revolting against and crushing the Yuon aggressors and their puppet leaders and lackeys in villages and communes, and in the district township.

3. The report added that the attacks on the Yuon aggressors and puppet leaders in Kompong Thom and Siem Reap Provinces, especially Stoung District, were exceptional because the people themselves rose up in revolt against the Yuon enemies and puppet leaders. Along with this, scores of the Yuon puppet regime's soldiers and officials also directly participated in the uprising.

The Yuon aggressors and puppet leaders were in fear and bewilderment because the mutiny against them involved not only the Cambodian national resistance forces but also a large number of people. And the puppet regime's soldiers and officials themselves also carried out the attacks, sending the puppet leaders in Stoung District, Kompong Thom and Siem Reap Provinces, and other places as well as Phnom Penh to their doom.

Sihanouk Says UNTAC Responsible for Peace

BK2002062493 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0400 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Phnom Penh 20 Feb (SPK)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk said again on Thursday [18 February] that he will not be a candidate in the presidential election in Cambodia, stressing that the reason is Khmer Rouge opposition to elections.

In New York Butrus-Ghali presented a report to the Security Council affirming that "the presidential election could improve the prospect of national reconciliation in Cambodia and promote stability."

The presidential election is not stipulated in the peace plan to end the civil war in the country. However, the Security Council has approved holding such an election following a request by Prince Sihanouk.

The prince, however, changed his mind after the Khmer Rouge said that they oppose UN-organized elections.

The prince also said that the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), and not Cambodian factions themselves, is responsible for the success or failure of the peace plan.

The report by Butrus-Ghali says that the factions would be responsible for the success of the peace plan.

Prince Sihanouk replied that Cambodia cannot be held responsible because UNTAC, and not the Cambodians, holds power in Cambodia.

Sihanouk Thanks Khmer Rouge Leaders for Support

BK2302014893 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia, on 18 February 1993 sent a message answering a joint message from His Excellency [H.E.] Khieu Samphan, chairman of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] and SNC member, and H.E. Son Sen, vice chairman of the PDK and SNC member. Here is the full content of the message:

From: Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman;

To: H.E. Khieu Samphan, PDK chairman and SNC member and H.E. Son Sen, PDK vice chairman and SNC member.

Highly esteemed excellencies: I acknowledge receipt of your message dated 16 February 1993. I would like profoundly to thank both of you and the entire PDK for your fine sentiment and highly patriotic spirit.

Please, excellencies and your staff members accept deeply affectionate and cordial regards from me and my wife.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 18 February 1993.
[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk.

Sihanouk's 'Clear Thinking' Praised

BK2102012493 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] On 17 February in a clarification statement, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Cambodian Supreme National Council, said again that because of the national cause, I have repeatedly said in February that I will not stand in the presidential election organized by UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia] ahead of the assembly election. Earlier, on 14 February, the prince issued a statement clearly stating that he will not stand in the presidential election held before the assembly election.

This shows clear thinking in realizing the danger to the Cambodian nation, people, and race now and in the future. He has held aloft the banner of patriotism with a noble goal to ensure that the Cambodian nation, people, and race survive and live in peace with genuine independence.

Party Official 'Banned' From Meeting Refugees

BK2102025093 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Excerpt] A member of the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party recently said that the Yuon aggressors and their puppets have been carrying out very brutal activities against the people and members of his party.

He further said that the Yuon aggressors and the the Phnom Penh puppets have not allowed his party to meet with refugees who have been repatriated by the United Nations. The puppets consider these refugees enemies and have absolutely banned them from meeting with fellow countrymen. [passage omitted]

Japanese 'Export' Logs in Violation of Ban

BK2102030093 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Excerpt] According to sources among the Cambodian people and many international sources, Japanese companies have colluded with the Yuon [Vietnamese] aggressors and the Yuon's puppets to move tens of thousands of cubic meters of logs out of eastern Cambodia to Japan.

The sources say that the export of Cambodian logs to Japan by Japanese companies is a gross violation of the ban by the United Nations. The sources say a Japanese company, which dares not reveal its name, justified exporting to Japan by saying that it did this with UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia] authorization. [passage omitted]

UN Spokesman: CPP Gets Top Spot on Ballot

BK2302115493 Hong Kong AFP in English 1049 GMT 23 Feb 93

[By Sheri Prasso]

[Text] Phnom Penh, Feb 23 (AFP)—The Phnom Penh government's Cambodian People's Party (CPP) will get top billing on the ballot for U.N.-run elections scheduled for May, a U.N. spokesman said Tuesday. The CPP drew the top spot on the ballot in a U.N.-held lottery, spokesman Eric Falt said.

Its main challenger, FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia], which is loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, drew the ninth slot, burying it in the middle. The political offshoot of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) following former Prime Minister Son Sann placed eighth.

Falt also said that five of the 20 parties who applied to be on the ballot at first did not meet the requirements but would be accepted anyway. The parties—four run by Cambodian-Americans and another led by the French

nephew of Phnom Penh Foreign Minister Hor Nah-mong—were told on Sunday that they did not meet the requirements. But they all complained to U.N. officials, claiming that the process used to verify whether the parties had the signatures of 5,000 voters was inaccurate.

"It has been decided that there might have been some problems with a few of the names, so we're going to accommodate them," Falt said, citing the difficulty of reading Khmer writing.

The head of the U.N. electoral component, Reginald Austin, said his staff did further checks as a result of the complaints and found that all the names matched up to their voter registration numbers after all. "As a result of our check, we decided they should be on the ballot," he said.

The radical Khmer Rouge never applied to be on the ballot and have rejected the May elections as a rubber-stamp of what they call the continued Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia.

Meanwhile, the Phnom Penh government said that while it still planned to win an absolute majority, it would have to share power with other parties. "Even if we have an absolute majority, we will have an alliance with other political factions," senior government advisor and deputy minister Khieu Kanharith said at a press conference.

He did not say with which parties the government would consider a power-sharing arrangement.

The CPP has nearly two million members, and believes it will gather up to 62 percent of the vote, Khieu Kanharith said. Previously, government officials have flatly stated that they would win 80 percent of the vote because the government controls 80 percent of the country.

The remaining 20 percent is held by the three opposition factions, including the Khmer Rouge, FUNCINPEC and the KPNLF. Increasing popularity among rival political parties—particularly FUNCINPEC—has caused the CPP's popularity to suffer.

Asked whether civil servants have been forced to sign documents pledging to vote for the government party, Khieu Kanharith denied it. "Even if they sign one million papers, if they are not happy with the CPP they won't vote for the CPP," he said.

Elsewhere, the former prime minister and party chairman of the Phnom Penh government from 1979 to 1981, Pen Sovann, said he was ready to return to politics.

In an interview published in the Khmer-language "LAND AND PEOPLE" newspaper, he said he had been approached by the KPNLF, FUNCINPEC and another party run by a former Lon Nol-era minister and asked to join their campaigns. But he has not yet made up his mind which party to join. "Before I did not decide to join in Cambodian politics again, but after listening to what people think about me, I mean they still respect me, respect my prestige, I decided that I will join politics again," he was quoted as saying.

Pen Sovann, 56, one of the original communist revolutionaries, was deposed in an internal coup and spent 10 years in exile in Hanoi. He returned to his native Takeo Province in southern Cambodia in January 1991, where he has since lived as a relative recluse. In previous interviews he has said he would rejoin politics if it was the "will of the people.

Chakkrapong Opens Hospital in Kompong Cham

BK2002072593 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] On the morning of 17 February, a high-level delegation of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and Government of the State of Cambodia [SOC] led by Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, member of the Standing Committee of the CPP Central Committee and vice chairman of the SOC Council of Ministers, and his wife went to inaugurate a hospital in Ponhea Krek district of Kompong Cham Province.

Attending the ceremony were Yim Chhaili, member of the CPP Central Committee and health minister; Hun Neng, member of the CPP Central Committee and chairman of Kompong Cham Provincial Party Committee and Provincial People's Committee; officials and personages from various SOC ministries, departments, and institutions; and many people, teachers, students, officials, and employees in Ponhea Krek District.

Also attending the ceremony were Mr. (Andrew Borsel), representative of [name indistinct] organization, and some of his colleagues.

Speaking on that occasion, Prince Chakkrapong expressed profound thanks to the organization for helping to build this hospital in Ponhea Krek district. The prince also hailed the great feats and achievements made by people in Ponhea Krek district as well as in the entire Kompong Cham Province under the CPP and SOC Government, which have all along helped improve people's livelihood.

Prince Norodom Chakkrapong also spoke about implementation of the Paris peace agreement that our SOC side has correctly abided by and implemented. On the other hand, the Khmer Rouge faction has refused to implement the agreement and even grossly committed military violations in the areas controlled by our SOC.

Later, the prince cut the ribbon to officially inaugurate the hospital of Ponhea Krek district.

In the afternoon the delegation, which was led by Prince Norodom Chakkrapong and his wife, went to visit officials, employees, students, teachers, people, and Muslims at (?a vocational school) in Tbong Khmum district of Kompong Cham Province.

Officials Receive Indian Government Delegates

Hun Sen Receives Delegation

BK2102091093 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia [SOC], received Salman Haidar secretary of the Government of the Republic of India, at the office of the Council of Ministers at 0830 on 20 February.

During the talks H.E. Hun Sen welcomed the visit, which is important to the peace proceess in Cambodia. He also thanked the prime minister and Government of India for their contributions to Cambodia's restoration, particularly the relations between the two countries, Cambodia and India, which have similar traditions and customs.

Replying, Salman Haidar thanked the SOC Government for creating favorable conditions for his stay in Cambodia to enable him to understand the implementation of the Paris peace agreement in Cambodia and he visited Indian troops that have joined the UN peacekeeping force in Cambodia.

Chea Sim Receives Delegation

BK2202073193 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] On the afternoon of 20 February at the office of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee, His Excellency [H.E.] Chea Sim, chairman of the CPP, National Assembly, and Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense, granted an audience to Salman Haidar, secretary of the Government of the Republic of India.

After welcoming the delegation, H.E. Chea Sim said the visit was very significant to implementing the peace agreement in Cambodia and contributed to the ties of friendship and cooperation betwee: Cambodia and India. He also highly appraised India's contribution to implementing the Paris peace agreement, reconstruction of Cambodia, and particularly to Indo-Cambodian relations in the interests of the two peoples and governments in economic, cultural, technical, and scientific fields, and its assistance in building Cambodian specialists and restoring Cambodia's cultural heritage.

Replying, Salman Haidar expressed thanks to the host for the favorable conditions given him during his stay in Cambodia. He also spoke about the development of Indo-Cambodian relations and said that India would continue to make all possible contributions to enable Cambodian people to enjoy a genuine peace.

Paper Edited by Khieu Samphan's Brother Appears

BK2302044493 Hong Kong AFP in English 0428 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, Feb 23 (AFP)—A newspaper edited by the brother of Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan has appeared in the Cambodian capital, urging reconciliation among the country's factions and indirectly criticizing the Phnom Penh government. The first issue of VOICE OF NEUTRALITY featured a large, front-page cartoon of the government's Cambodian People's Party (CPP) promising to abolish corruption while its officials oversee gambling, drinking and prostitution.

Khieu Sengkim, 48, the younger brother of Khieu Samphan, was editor-in-chief of a popular newspaper in the 1970s that indirectly criticized the corruption of the Lon Nol regime.

The new publication marks his return to journalism, as assistant editor under Hor Sokpheap, a 28-year-old mathematics teacher formerly with the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) loyal to former Prime Minister Son Sann. "I am suspected by the government because my brother has been a leader of the Khmer Rouge faction, but I am (politically) far away from my brother," Khieu Sengkim said. "I have no ideology like him."

The Voice of Neutrality was started with 4,000 U.S. dollars from the editor-in-chief, helped by a former Phnom Penh government soldier who is also a deputy editor. The first 10,000 copies went on sale at newsstands over the weekend.

The first issue also included an article on national reconciliation, which used a metaphor for the Cambodian conflict: "When the elephants are fighting each other, it is the ants who die." It also urged: "Who will love the Khmers if they don't love themselves?"

Meanwhile, the former editor of the country's largest official government newspaper, KAMPUCHEA, has been reappointed after being sacked in June 1990 for being too independent.

Khieu Kanharith was asked on Friday to revive the stodgy publication, which has suffered in the new atmosphere of openness and is barely read. Its circulation dropped from 55,000 per week in 1990 to the current 3,000 since Khieu Kanharith's departure.

He said he had demanded a free hand, and would print articles critical of the government while still remaining as the official government spokesman.

"Being independent doesn't only mean being critical of the government, but honest," he said. "If we cannot come to an agreement, they must sack me again."

He expects to publish the revised edition in two weeks.

Laos

Central Committee Plenum Issues 'Release'

BK1902143793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 18 Feb 93

["Release" of the Fifth Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee issued at the conclusion of the Committee's Sixth Plenum—dated 18 February]

[Text] The Sixth Plenum of the Fifth Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee convened between 10 and 18 February under the chairmanship of Comrade Khamtai Siphandon, chairman of the LPRP Central Committee, was concluded with success on 18 February.

The session unanimously assessed that in 1992, our entire party, Army, and people have made active efforts and united as one to overcome numerous obstacles and difficulties. We have turned the grief over the passing of Comrade President Kaysone Phomvihan into revolutionary deeds by resolutely implementing the guidelines and policies of our party and state and have made numerous important achievements. Throughout the past year, the general situation in our country was stable. Our socioeconomic development has progressed new steps. The people's right of being the masters of the country and the democracy of the citizens have been enhanced and further developed and strengthened which evidently resulted in their political conscience and their active participation in the elections of the members of the Third National Assembly.

In addition, our country has made considerable contributions toward promoting peace, friendship, stability, and cooperation with all countries, especially with neighborly countries, thereby winning sympathy, support, and assistance from many countries and international organizations, thus significantly contributing to the tasks of building and developing the country.

The session profoundly reviewed and assessed some shortcomings, remaining problems, and instances of setbacks arising out of the process of implementing the guidelines and policies of the party and state. At the same time, it also discussed ways to bring about solutions to aforementioned problems, aimed at rendering and organizing the implementation of such guidelines and policies to be more effective and fruitful in the coming years.

The plenum concentrated efforts on studying, discussing, and unanimously agreeing on the overall tasks, objectives, and directives of the socioeconomic development plan for the period between 1993 and 2000 as follows:

A. The overall tasks: increasing the unity among the entire masses; enhancing the spirit of being the masters of one's own destiny, self-reliance, and self-building; mobilizing and deploying all the potential of the entire masses and of all economic sectors to expand production activities through the market economy mechanism with adjustment by the state combined with broadening relations and cooperation with foreign countries; exploiting and utilizing national potential, for example in the fields of agriculture, forestry, and hydropower so as to develop production vigorously; turning the subsistence and semi-subsistence economy into a market economy, thereby gradually moving the country away from a less-developed condition; securely defending the country; and building the people's democratic regime along the guidelines laid down by the party.

B. Objectives:

1. To meet the urgent needs of the people in their living conditions, especially those living in mountainous regions; gradually improve the material and cultural living standards of the people; raise the salaries of state employees while increasing national revenue; and maintain political and social stability by firmly combining socioeconomic development with national defense and public security maintenance work and foreign affairs.

2. To build the agro-forestry economic structure which is to be linked at the early stage with industry and services, starting from the grass-roots level, in order to develop goods production. This is to create an atmosphere conducive to bringing about a clear-cut change in the national economy and to create more sources of capital within the country in order to stabilize national finance, to march forward to self-reliance, and to actively develop human resources to create favorable conditions for national construction in the immediate and long-term future.

C. Relying on the said overall tasks and objectives, the plenary session of the LPRP Central Committee has also outlined the directives for the country's socioeconomic development from now to the year 2000 as follows:

1. To link agro-forestry development with the processing industry as the forefront; to promote and to raise the efficiency of agricultural production in all aspects; to focus on building hydroelectric facilities; to expand industry at an appropriate rate; to link agro-forestry and industrial development with the expansion of communications and transport services; and to pay attention to protecting the environment, including forests and wildlife.

2. To promote the market economy in all sectors and in all forms of ownership; to set up the multitiered structure of the market economy [words indistinct] so as to take the national potential into as much business production as possible under the state's management and supervision; to promote the family economy and independent production by farmers in the country to be linked with organizing the two-tiered services by all economic sectors under the form of production relations, circulation, and living conditions with a view to turning the family economy into a market economy with firm steps.

3. To build the economic structure in all regions in order to simultaneously develop the three areas—the lowlands, plains, and mountains. Generally speaking, all regions and areas must be developed at the same pace. Efforts must be concentrated on developing the areas having the most favorable conditions. All the potential of natural resources, land, forests, and manpower must be mobilized to the fullest extent to create a foundation and capabilities (?in all fields) so as to move forward the national economy and culture. By following this directive, in the coming years, all efforts must be concentrated on developing [words indistinct] in the country in all aspects. Urgent attention must be focused on studying plans to construct the Nam Teun hydroelectric system within the next five to seven years.

4. To concentrate all efforts on developing the countryside in a comprehensive manner; to regard this endeavor as an urgent task of socioeconomic development in our country with a view to building and incessantly changing the material and cultural life of the multiethnic people. In comprehensively developing the country, we must regard the mobilization of the people, the creation of unity and a sense of generosity and mutual assistance among the people in each village, and the consolidation of the people's democratic regime under the leadership of party units as primary concerns; the economic, cultural, and social construction work as the pivotal issue; and the maintenance of public security within villages as a fundamental issue. Efforts must be urgently made to outline regulations, [word indistinct], and tasks as well as policies for [words indistinct] system.

5. To do away with the centralized, bureaucratic, and state-financing mechanisms and to replace them with market economy mechanisms under state management. In consolidating the organizations that play macromanagement roles, we must pay attention to correctly implementing the principles of democratic centralism. The rights, duties, and responsibilities of each organization must be defined. [words indistinct] In the immediate future, we must pay attention to increasing the efficiency of the centralized and unified management in all spheres of work and increasing the leading roles of the party committees as well as the responsibilities of the local administrations.

6. To expand economic relations with foreign countries; to acquire international potential with a view to gradually developing the national economy and culture in an (?epochal) direction.

7. To strive to develop human resources; to train technicians, academics, and workers at all levels to meet the needs of national development and the broadening of cooperation with foreign countries. At the same time, attention must be paid to improving the cultural life of the multiethnic people.

To ensure the successful implementation of the socioeconomic plan, the plenum session unanimously agreed on adopting some new measures for implementation.

In addition to the above-mentioned central issues, the plenary session also discussed certain issues concerning the reorganization of the state appratuses and the increased leadership of the party.

The LPRP Central Committee calls on all cadres, party members, and combatants in the national defense and public security maintenance forces, as well as the people of all strata and ethnic groups throughout the country to further enhance the tradition of unity, concord, patriotism, sacrifice, and industriousness in order to contribute to the implementation of the adopted socioeconomic development plan with a sense of alertness and [word indistinct] so as to allow it to gradually bear fruit for the prosperity of the country and the well-being of our people.

Nouhak Phoumsavan Addresses National Assembly

BK2102084193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0150 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Speech by President Nouhak Phoumsavan of the Lao People's Democratic Republic at the inaugural session of the third National Assembly in Vientiane on 20 February—live]

[Text] Respected Presidium, distinguished guests, and National Assembly members:

Participating in an episode of the country's political life, our multiethnic people successfully cast ballots to vote for members of the Third National Assembly on 20 December 1992. With the participation of nearly 100 percent of eligible voters, the election was a highly significant political event in many aspects. First, it displayed the genuine democratic right as exercised by citizens. It reflected the people's confidence and awareness of self-mastery. It also reaffirmed the determination of the people of all strata and ethnic groups to walk together along the path they have chosen to continue the construction and expansion of the popular democratic system so as to build a peaceful, independent, democratic, unified, and prosperous Laos.

On this auspicous occasion, I wholeheartedly praise the people of all strata and ethnic groups, cadres, soldiers, police, all agencies, and localities as well as business people in all economic sectors for their contribution to the success of the election of the Third National Assembly. [applause]

Following the liberation of our country, we elected two Supreme People's Assemblies. The first Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] carried out the task of creating unity and reconciliation among the people of all strata and ethnic groups to mobilize their strength for the defense of the country and build a new life for the people. The second SPA's functions were drafting the constitution and promulgating a number of necessary laws. Both assemblies have fulfilled their historic duties and gained credit from the multiethnic people. During

tenures of the two assemblies, we also elected the People's Councils at the provincial and district levels. In the early years, these councils at all levels worked closely with the people to implement the restructuring policy and guidelines contributing to the improvement of popular administrative power. The new National Assembly will function as a supreme legislative organization representing the rights and interests of the multiethnic people. Although it will carry on the tasks of the past two assemblies, the National Assembly must further enhance its political quality to enable it to meet the requirements of the duties and tasks of the legislative body under the present circumstances.

In compliance with the popular democratic principles as stipulated in the constitution, the structure of the National Assembly greatly demonstrates the right to self-mastery of the people of all strata in society. It also brings to light the policy of promoting all economic sectors under which, for example, the private economic sector is encouraged to take initiatives and use their intelligence to expand business production; the policy of promoting unity and reconciliation among the people of all strata, the people of different religions, and between the people who have religions and those who do not. We realize that the long-existing unity and reconciliation among the people is a fine tradition of our country. It is one of the decisive factors in all the victories of the past, present, and future. In this new era, we will have to concentrate on further enhancing it so that it will become a strong force for the defense of the new regime and socioeconomic development in the country.

The National Assembly will continue to implement the political restructuring policy to facilitate the expansion in the economic and cultural and other spheres. We must keep in mind that the implementation of the restructuring policy should not be made complicated. Rather, it is aimed at further strenthening the country's stability. Our restructuring efforts are based on principles and aimed at maintaining, improving, and expanding the popular democratic system, ensuring the right to self-mastery, and further improving the material and spiritual life of the multiethnic people.

The liberation of our nation, elimination of the old regime, and the establishment of the popular democratic state was a milestone for our unified state. The National Assembly is the symbol of the unity of the nation in which all power belongs to the people, is by the people, and for the people. Hence, the administrative power of the people and state power have been unified. The legislative and administrative bodies are also unified. They differ only in terms of their tasks and responsibilites but are unified in implementing the restructuring policy of the party and state exclusively for the purposes of achieving national stability and the people's prosperity. Our state has been established and moves toward the direction of guaranteeing national reconciliation. We must refrain from creating conflicts to prevent unrest and socioeconomic confusion which can weaken and immobilize the restructuring efforts and obstruct national development. We have learned in the past several years that the establishment and activities of the National Assembly and every state agency must be in line with the principle of democratic centralization as stipulated in the Constitution. Meanwhile, the state follows the direction of centralized management through regulations, laws, policies, and guidelines for socioeconomic development, while promoting democracy in all localities and economic bases and enhancing the people's right to initiative and innovation. Only through this path, can we achieve the state efficiency in management of the country, maintain peace and order, and guarantee stability in the entire society and also mobilize and strengthen their force for the country's defense and development.

Distinguished personalities, the objective of the restructuring efforts in our country is to enhance the right to self-mastery of the people of all ethnic groups. The recent election of the people's representatives to the National Assembly has proven that our people are firmly confident that the new assembly will continue to guarantee the citizens' full democratic rights and freedoms. Under our democratic system, citizens of the prescribed ages are able to fully exercise their democratic rights and freedoms and vote for their representatives to the National Assembly. For this reason, each National Assembly member is a representative of the voters not only his or her locality but also the national community. Therefore, the National Assembly members are obliged to bring the legitimate aspiration of the people in their respective constituencies to the National Assembly and take National Assembly resolutions back to the people, and explain them in their constituencies for further implementation. On the other hand, the National Assembly members have the duty of defending the legitimate interest of the people in their constituencies, gather suggestions and complaints from the people for consultations with state agencies concerned so as to solve the problems for the people. They are also responsible for the interests of the nation and people. During National Assembly sessions, they must work on and deliberate the problems of the nation. As a legislative body, the constitution stipulates that the National Assembly is the organization empowered to make decisions on the basic problems of the country, which range from drafting laws, guidelines, and both internal and external policies to appointing and dismissing the people holding important government positions. Suffice it to say that the National Assembly is an organization which truly represents the people's right to self-mastery and exercises the people's rights on their behalf. In the future, the National Assembly can, if necessary, allow the people to decide on a national problem. This is one way to exercise the people's right to self-mastery through the democratic system.

To enable the people to exercise their right to self-mastery in their daily livelihood, our state exercises the right to self-mastery in the political, economic, cultural, and social areas. The most important objective is to

guarantee the democratic rights, freedoms, and human rights of every citicizen in the national community. This is the foundation and condition for citizens to fully use their potential, labor, and intelligence in earning their living for the benefit of the well-being of each individual and the entire society.

We must admit that we are unable to guarantee these rights can be administered for everyone within one day as our people are different and have special characteristics. Due to various obstacles and the differences in geographic, historical, economic, social, and other conditions, we cannot simply copy the pattern from any country and apply it to our own. Considering the conditions in our country, it is necessary to take gradual action to fully secure democratic rights and freedoms and human rights for our citizens, solve the problem of backwardness, and turn the natural economy to the multisectoral goods economy in line with the marketing mechanism with state adjustment, so as to enrich the people and strengthen the country. Only through this path can we strengthen and expand the democratic rights and freedoms for individual citizens. However, the administration of democratic rights and freedoms must go along with the recognition of citizens' obligations. Democratic rights and freedoms do not mean that we can do what we want. The law clearly stipulates the limits of democratic rights and interests of individuals in society and national interests.

Distinguished personalities, we have recognized the tasks and authority of the National Assembly as stipulated by the Consitution. The National Assembly is a legislative body promulgating laws and drafting or amending the Constitution and other laws. In order to create a legal system, it is a neccessary task to spell out citizens' rights and obligations and regulate relations and occupations of people in society. For this reason, laws provide a means for social management with the aim of guaranteeing the right to self-mastery and democratic rights and freedoms of citizens.

The Second Supreme People Assembly promulgated the Constitution and a number of necessary laws which is a milestone for the implementation of the political restructuring policy and guideline. To enforce the said Constitution and laws, we will have to continue considering and passing new laws that are necessary, such as those pertaining to citizens' basic rights and obligations, the formation of the government to replace the Law on the Formation of the Council of Ministers and others.

Essentially, the laws to be endorsed must respond to the country's development needs and state management in a specific period. It must suit the level of development of the economy, culture, and [word indistinct] of the multiethnic people. Only such practice would help make laws that will contribute to the development of the society. Experience has taught us that the endorsement of laws must not be carried out hastily but carefully and step by step, based on thorough study and analysis of the socioeconomic development and the priority of the needs in state management. The law considered most necessary and urgent must be passed first, others later. It is also important that once a law is passed and enforced, that it must be regularly followed up on and evaluated. This is so that if it is unsuitable, corrections could be timely made.

The enforcement and the application of laws to daily life is an important task. Despite the different views on various issues, we all admit that the various endorsed laws are basically good. However, if they are not properly enforced, they would be useless for the protection of society. In order to promote efficiency in law enforcement, after the laws are endorsed, they must be widely publicized among the cadres, soldiers, police, and the people. This is to encourge everyone to have a better understanding of the laws and to be more aware and to act accordingly. Administrative bodies at all levels must instruct all organizations and personnel under their supervision to strictly enforce the law. The organizations for legal administration comprising the public prosecutors' organizations and the people's courts must justly implement laws in all cases of legal violations in order to ensure peace and order in society.

The National Assembly is the highest organization with the duty of inspecting and controlling the implementation of the Constitution and laws at every level and every administrative service throughout the country. At the same time, the National Assembly should consider and set necessary measures to ensure the efficient implementation of the Constitution and laws. This is its responsibility in ensuring the effective implementation of laws in society.

Distinguished guests, over the past decade, our Supreme People's Assembly has attentively participated in international activities for the task of peace, friendship, and cooperation. In due course, it has gained support from the parliaments and peoples of friendly countries the world over. Under the present circumstance, the new assembly will perform its heavy task in implementing the political restructuring policy, and thus promote the continued use of laws to gradually enhance the efficiency of state management. This is aimed at responding to the needs of defending national stability and public peace in the new regime. Moreover, the National Assembly will have to attentively implement the country's foreign policy through participation in the Interparliamentary Organization activities as a member country. This is to help strengthen relations with the parliaments and peoples of various friendly countries of the world. The Lao People's Democractic Republic is a member of the Bali Treaty and has observer status in ASEAN. Recently, our SPA had the opportunity to attend the ASEAN Interparliamentary Organization as an observer and to welcome an ASEAN Interparliamentary Organization delegation. In the future, our National Assembly will strengthen ties with the ASEAN Interparliamentary Organization (AIPO) to contribute to the maintenance of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation in this region.

Distinguished guests, based on the performance of the past two Supreme People's Assemblies and the duties of the new assembly, I believe the new National Assembly must increase its efficiency. This means every meeting, the activities of the Standing Committee of the National Assembly, and the activities of each National Assembly member. Being representatives of the people in the legislature, all assembly members must enthusiastically encourage the people to cooperate to find ways and means to ensure the implementation of state policy and laws.

In dealing with the people, the people will certainly raise their problems and ask for assistance. Explanations will be necessary for issues with incomplete information. Meanwhile, problems that are worth solving should be brought forward to the concerned authorities so that appropriate solutions can be found. Once these activities are carried out, each representative will be able to fully contribute to the consolidation of state power.

In this inaugural meeting, I propose that the National Assembly consider approving the structure of the new Government, the state socioeconomic development plans and the 1993 state budget, and the recommendations on laws on the formation of the National Assembly.

Once again, I hope all assembly members will cooperate and help to consolidate the National Assembly in order to increase and enhance the role of the state, and thus earn the confidence the people have in them. I wish all National Assembly members success in carrying out duties in this inaugural meeting. Thank you. [applause]

National Assembly Discusses Development, Budget

BK2302093193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] The inaugural meeting of the Third National Assembly continued for the third day this morning. The meeting was chaired by Saman Vi-gnaket, chairman of the Third National Assembly.

During the morning session, 85 assembly members and invited distinguished guests discussed and expressed their views on the two sets of important documents presented to the National Assembly meeting yesterday afternoon. They are a report on implementation of the socioeconomic development plan for 1992 and a draft socioeconomic development plan for the coming years, which was presented by Deputy Prime Minister Khamphoui Keoboualapha, and a report on implementation of the state budget for 1992 and a draft state budget plan for 1992-1993, which was presented by Finance Minister Khamsai Souphanouvong.

This morning the meeting began at 0830. After being invited by the National Assembly chairman, a number of representatives voluntarily offered their comments in an extensively democratic manner. They included Payoun Latmonti, representative of Sayaboury Province; Khampan Silavong, representative of Luang Namtha Province; Sisouk Sisombat, representative of Champassak Province; Sing Sai-gnabouasi, representative of Savannakhet Province; Phosai Sihachak, representative of Saravane Province; Boun-gnang Vongphachan, representative of Luang Prabang Province; Loumkham Vongsai, representative of Vientiane Province; Simmali Phanthamalai, representative of Vientiane Province; and Dr. Siho Bannavong, representative of Vientiane Municipality.

ADB Director Visits Development Projects

BK2302124393 Vientiane KPL in English 0911 GMT 23 Feb 93

[Text] Vientiane, February 23 (KPL)—Khamphoui Keoboualapha, vice prime minister and president of the Committee for Planning and Cooperation yesterday received an ADB [Asian Development Bank] mission led by the ADB executive director, Mr. (?V. Diovanni Montana), currently visiting Laos to get more information about economic reform in Laos.

The ADB executive director also met with Finance Minister Khamsai Souphanouvong and Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic] Bank Governor Boutsabong Souvannavong. Their discussions focused on cooperation and assistance in several areas betwen Lao PDR and ADB.

The ADB mission showed its interest in [word indistinct] present long-term socioeconomic development in Laos in order to help mobilise foreign investment in Laos. It was also interested in Laos' socioeconomic development plan through the year 2000.

They also discussed [words indistinct] ADB's loan projects for Laos in the past years, during which (?it) has granted a total of U.S. dollars 48.6 million loans for use in different sectors.

Communications covers 39.40 percent; hydropower 23.5 percent, agriculture 4.5 percent, forestry 5.62 percent, education 4.0 percent, water sources 8.3 percent and others 2.4 percent. [figures as received]

This ADB mission welcomed efforts of the Lao PDR government in conducting its economic reform and pledged more loans and assistance for Laos in the future.

Philippines

NAPOCOR Head, U.S. Firm Linked to 'Sweetheart Deal'

HK2302042093 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 23 Feb 93 pp 1, 10

[Text] Pablo Malixi, president of the National Power Corp. [NAPOCOR], was accused yesterday of approving a "sweetheart deal" that allows an American company to earn an extra P400 million [Philippine pesos] a year for 10 years by charging overpriced electric rates.

House Minority Floor Leader Hernando Perez said in a privilege speech Malixi signed the contract last June 29 with the U.S.-based Enron Power Corp. for the construction of a 105-megawatt diesel plant in Batangas City and the supply of fuel. Under the terms of the contract, Enron will charge the Napocor P2 per kilowatt-hour of power generated.

However, another contract with a different firm for the construction of a similar plant and signed on the same day sets the rate at only P1.47 per kilowatt-hour, according to Perez.

"At the rate of 800 million kilowatt-hours that Napocor is bound to buy from Enron, the Enron contract is higher by the whooping sum of P400 million per year or a grand total of P4 billion for 10 years," he said.

The Napocor currently sells electricity at P1.66 per kilowatt-hour. At this rate, the financially-distressed power firm would have to absorb P281.2 million in losses each year to pay Enron.

Aside from the Batangas plant, Perez said, Enron was also awarded the contracts for the construction of two other power plants in Subic without any public bidding or notice.

Another firm offered lower bids to undertake the same projects, he said.

"So now we ask, what this Enron is and why it has been bagging the contracts," Perez said. "What is so special with Enron that they got very favorable treatment from Napocor?"

Aside from Malixi, Perez said Energy Secretary Delfin Lazaro could also be "in on this—meaning he knew the contract was anomalous but allowed the project's implementation anyway."

Lazaro was appointed chairman of Napocor late last year, or long after the contract for the Batangas plant had been signed. But Perez said it was Lazaro who announced "from out of the blue" last December that Enron had been awarded the Subic contracts.

He said it was also possible that "the President knows" about these deals.

President Ramos attended last Jan. 16 the ground-breaking for the P1.6-billion Enron project in Batangas, one of the three big power plants being "fast-tracked" by the administration. The project is located in Barangay Pinamucan, which is in Perez's congressional district.

In exposing the Enron deal, Perez predicted that the Napocor would pass on to the consumers the losses from the plant's operation.

Perez said the Napocor's losses were not really due to ignorance or inefficiency but because of "corruption."

The Napocor has been plagued by scandals, including the theft of fuel worth hundreds of millions of pesos and the loss of P185 million to a dollar blackmarket syndicate.

"Yet the Napocor proposes to recover these losses by passing it on to consumers through an increase in power rates. These losses have become the very excuses used by the Napocor to increase the power rates," he said.

Perez also voiced suspicion that the power outages, which have become longer and more frequent, were being stage-managed by the Napocor to "condition the minds of the power that it is a lot better to have power at high rates than to have no power at all."

Perez also demand a revamp in the Napocor to "cleanse its ranks and put in efficiency and integrity."

He said his expose on the Enron contract was only the start of a series on the "anatomy of corruption" in the government-owned power firm.

"We shall continue (exposing irregularities) until such time that major changes are made in the Napocor," he said. "The President owes it to the people."

As for the alleged anomalous contracts, Perez said it was legally possible to rescind these.

"I will hand everything to the Tanodbayan and watch what action they're going to take," he said. "But it will take the will of the government to do so."

Government Considers NAFTA Countermeasures

HK2002020093 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 18 Feb 93 p 3

[Text] The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) has come up with measures designed to negate the adverse effect of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) on Philippine exports to the United States.

The NAFTA—composed of the U.S., Canada and Mexico—is seen as a threat to local exports because of its rigid local content requirements and special tariff privileges to member countries.

These features will effectively minimize the entry of exports from non-NAFTA countries.

The garment sector, for example, is one area which Government thinks will be hit by the NAFTA.

As a solution, the DTI is proposing the negotiation of an outward processing arrangement with the U.S.

Under this scheme, only the value-added of apparel made from U.S. fabrics should be slapped import duties.

The DTI is also proposing the restructuring of a bilateral agreement to enable exporters to move to the higher end of the garments market.

Garments are among the country's top exports to the U.S., raking in $1 billion in 1990.

Sugar is another export which is predicted to be adversely hit by the implementation of the NAFTA in 1994.

The local sugar sector fears the U.S. will dole out sugar quota allocations previously assigned to other countries to Mexico instead.

This could happen once Mexico becomes a net surplus producer.

To counter this threat, the DTI is proposing that Government lobby for the inclusion of all caloric sweeteners in calculating Mexico's net production surplus.

The DTI said it would also push for the extension of the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) to protect the sugar sector.

The DTI has also come up with measures to protect canned tuna, another top export to the U.S.

The DTI said it will work with environmentalist groups to prevent the entry of Mexican tuna to the U.S.

As of now, the U.S. has banned the entry of Mexican tuna because Mexican fishermen are said to be using fishing techniques considered harmful to dolphins.

Government Backs Japan's Bid for UNSC Seat

HK2202051293 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 22 Feb 93 p 1

[Report by Jose G. Ebro]

[Text] Vienna—The Philippines will support Japan's bid for a seat on the UN Security Council [UNSC] should Tokyo make formal its quest to move from simply "one-dimensional" economic power to full superpower status, a Philippine diplomat told Business World.

This revelation came on the heels of avowed German support for Japan's entry in the exclusive five-nation club.

"We are inclined to support Japan's membership in the UN Security Council, should it decide to move in that direction," the Philippine diplomat said, adding that Manila would ask that "reforms be correspondingly undertaken to streamline the Security Council's decision-making process and ensure that such becomes more democratic."

Other foreign affairs department sources indicated that instructions had been sent to Philippine missions to the UN in New York and Geneva, as well as Vienna, and to the Philippine Embassy in Tokyo to advise them of that position.

European diplomats believe that the entry of Japan would open the door to similar agitation on the part of such countries as India and Brazil. "It's so difficult to get consensus with five countries, what more if the Security Council is expanded?" one asked. [sentence as published] All it takes to block a Security Council resolution is one veto, he pointed out.

A political analyst here believes that support from a country such as the Philippines, which had suffered tremendously from Japanese military adventurism during World War II, "would help turn the page ... and (assist in efforts to) recognize a more responsible Japan and the increasingly important role it will be playing not just in economic but in political and security issues."

One important hurdle Japan will have to make will be to amend Article 9 of its Constitution to pave the way for Japanese military action in support of UN decisions.

UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali has pointedly urged Tokyo to get its constitutional processes under way.

Mr. Ghali, UN observers point out, has grown more reliant on Japanese financing for various UN relief and peacekeeping efforts. "The Secretary General is also counting on Japanese support for his 'Agenda for Peace' peacemaking concept," a UN official remarked.

Under that proposal, the UN will be taking on a more active "peace-enforcement" role such as is being carried out at present by U.S. forces in Somalia. For countries to buy that idea—requiring a harder commitment in the way of combat troops and logistics support—several quarters have called for changes in the current UN decision-making process.

Economist Sees Economy 'Headed for a Rebound'

HK2302042793 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 23 Feb 93 p 1

[Text] The per capita income of Filipinos, or the amount each of them were supposed to have produced in a given year, rose to $887 in 1992, and only because the value of their pesos against the US dollar made sharp appreciations during the period. Bernardo Villegas, senior vice president of the Center for Research and Communication, said yesterday the Filipino's per capita income, although the lowest in Southeast Asia, is expected to rise further to $1,000 by 1998.

The per capita income of a nation is determined by the amount of the gross national product (GNP) it produces a year divided by the number of its populace. GNP means the amount of goods and services a country produces during a specific period. However, based on figures gathered from the National Economic and Development Authority (Neda), the per capita income last year was only $826, or $2.29 a day. This means that, in peso terms, a Filipino earned only P58.53 [Philippine pesos] on a daily basis, based on the exchange rate of P25.51 to a US dollar. This was, nonetheless, an

improvement from the previous year's per capita income of $723 when the exchange rate was P27.48 to the dollar.

The per capita figures also showed that the rise was not attained through an increase in GNP, as it failed to move up in the last two years. The peso started to gain strength two years ago when the government imposed a 9% import levy that discouraged import transactions. Although the levy was subsequently reduced to 5%, the impact was unchanged.

Still, Villegas said, the rising per capita GNP is only one of the signs that the economy is headed for a rebound. Speaking at the Euromoney Conference which opened yesterday, the economist pointed out that the current poverty level of 41% would eventually drop to 30% before the Ramos government ends its term. Villegas also said he believed the government could attain its growth target of 4.5% this year because of the government's pump-priming activities wherein it would spend P50 billion in the first semester for infrastructure and other development projects.

He said agriculture would grow 4% with better weather. Food, he added, would be abundant, making up 50% of the national index. Even with a consumer boom expected this year, Villegas said, inflation would not set in, since factories would continue to operate at half their capacity. Villegas saw private-sector investments coming in by the second half of this year, a development that would spur growth further.

By 1994, Villegas said, a 6% to 8% GNP growth could be possible. Exports, by that time, could grow by 15% to 20%, he said. The Philippines, at this point, can achieve political stability, the lack of which dragged down the economy in the past, he said. "The Philippines is one of the few Third World countries which has settled the succession problem," Villegas said, adding that this would continue to be the trend during the next elections, he added. [sentence as published]

Economists Urge Government To Drop IMF Talks

HK2202045693 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 20 Feb 93 p 17

[Text] The government has been urged to suspend negotiations with the International Monetary Fund [IMF] on a new economic program until after the country's medium-term development plan has been reviewed, revised, and accepted by Congress.

The call was made by six economists from the University of the Philippines' [UP] School of Economics in a paper released over the weekend.

The paper, which aims to have a bolder and more independent economic program for the Philippines, was signed by former economic planning secretary Cayetano Paderanga Jr., former budget undersecretary Benjamin Diokno, Raul V. Fabella, Emmanuel S. de Dios, Joseph Y. Lim, and Gwendolyn Tecson.

The economists have urged leaders in the Executive, the Senate, and the House to pay closer attention to the economic fundamentals and to invite various sectors of the public to participate in the process and work out a common agenda for legislative and executive action.

They said claims that such a stop in negotiations with the IMF would have dire consequences are fiction. "On the contrary, it can only enhance the country's credibility and bargaining power if it can present its creditors with a coherent and rigorous economic program that commands broad support."

"After all, the first and the best 'good housekeeping seal' the government should obtain is that from its own people," they added.

The economists noted that what was lacking up to now is a cohesive and credible program that would come to grips with the crucial economic problems and guide the economy's problems and guide the economy's progress in the next two to three years.

"Some in the government seem to feel, however, that such a program should be written only under the aegis of an agreement with the (IMF), to replace the current one which is just lapsing," they said.

The government negotiating panel ended its first round of negotiations with a visiting IMF mission last week without any agreement on key economic targets.

The UP economists had noted that the customary pattern up to now has been "one where the executive, through its financial managers, pre-committed the government to a tough (economic) program, after which it would then proceed to cajole Congress and the people into accepting the measures needed to implement it."

"To persist in such an approach at this time, however, would only be counterproductive. It would tend to hinder rather than to promote the formulation of the right economic program," they pointed out.

They said there is now a unique opportunity for the government to break the tired pattern of formulating macro-economic programs, adding that the government could now formulate a program "encompassing an executive and legislative agenda, adjusted to the country's present situation, whose priorities and pace can be supported by all important sectors."

"Nevertheless, this window will not remain open indefinitely. If the government should fail to seize this opportunity to forge a common agenda, then the task of program formulation shall once more have been abdicated to external agencies, with the risk of policy gridlock looming larger," the economists warned.

They said the presence of the IMF or other foreign agencies in drawing up a program would be distracting and counter-productive. "What the country and its government need at this time is a long enough breathing

spell to work out a common program internally, before coming to any agreement with its creditors."

Economic Secretary: Country Can Do Without IMF

HK2302035593 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 23 Feb 93 pp 1, 8

[Report by Meluchi A. Adriano]

[Text] Should Government and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) find their differences irreconcilable, the Philippine panel is ready for the prospect of a divorce.

Answering queries from participants of PhilInvestments '93 at the Shangri La complex, Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Cielito Habito said that if both panels failed to find some suitable middle ground on the country's growth targets, the Philippine panel is "prepared to do without the (IMF) program."

Mr. Habito was yesterday referring to the series of talks between Government and the IMF on a new economic program for the Philippines. Known as the Extended Fund Facility (EFF), the scheme could spell some $800 million in fresh loans to the country over a three-year period.

However, the bane of these talks has been the Philippines' Medium-Term Development Plan (MTDP).

Outlining growth targets for the next six years, the MTDP has been seen as overly ambitious. The IMF panel has found this year's projected 4.5 percent GNP growth rate as unrealistic; while 1993's targetted 7.5 percent average inflation rate has been deemed "too high."

Mr. Habito however stressed that their negotiating stance has always been to defend the integrity of the MTDP. "There are minimum positions we are keeping. We're prepared to consider doing away with (the program) if we cannot agree."

Should the country opt for this parting of ways, it will not have a shortage of suitors. Earlier reports quoted Asian Development Bank officials as assuring Government of continued credit assistance even if the talks with the IMF fell through.

Mr. Habito described such assurances as welcome news. "We do intend to pursue other possibilities in the event that we would have to do without this program," he said. He was, however, quick to point out that a collapse in talks "isn't very likely" as the IMF has expressed a willingness to be flexible about the terms of the next program.

Critics

On a paper written by his predecessor, Cayetano Paderanga, and five other University of the Philippines economics professors calling for a halt in negotiations while government shores up support for its own economic agenda, Mr. Habito said this was not possible under the circumstances.

"There are certain time constraints that we have," he said. He explained that the two sides must be able to show substantial progress before the country faces its other creditors in the Paris Club round of talks this April. "We don't have much time," he stressed.

Besides, he added, the MTDP was drafted with ample representation from all sectors, "so that plan should already have wide support."

Earlier, Mr. Habito outlined the goals of the MTDP to prospective investors at the PhilInvestments '93 Conference. He named its three specific targets as a doubt-digit growth rate by 1998, a per capita GNP of at least $1,000, and a poverty incidence of no more than 30 percent.

Selling Points

Political stability and skilled labor force surplus are the two strongest selling points the country can offer to foreign investors, as these "distinctive advantages" are sorely lacking in the other ASEAN countries.

And capitalizing on these advantages, the country can easily achieve a 4.5 percent growth this year.

This was the "fearless forecast" made by Bernardo Villegas, senior vice-president of the Center for Research and Communication (CRC), during the opening of the international symposium entitled "A New Era for the Philippines: Planning for Growth."

Mr. Villegas asserted that the Philippines is one of the few developing countries that has "once and for all settled the political succession," as he pointed out that many industrializing countries are "overly dependent on the rule of one man or authoritarian system, thus their future political situations are still uncertain."

The present "strong democratic institution," as culminated in the smooth transition of power, has discredited the ideologies being catered by communist insurgents and ultra-rightist groups, he added.

As for the high rate of criminality, Mr. Villegas believes that "it is not an insurmountable obstacle for a buoyant economy."

Manpower Pool

Further, the country has the largest pool of skilled manpower in the region, he contended.

"Cheap labor no longer tops the requirements of foreign investors," he added. "According to an IFC [expansion unknown] study, most investors from industrialized countries are looking for skilled manpower."

Acute skilled manpower is currently being experienced in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and Singapore.

At the same time, Mr. Villegas asserted that the Government's plan of "pump-priming" the economy will not result in hyperinflation, as "1993 is very unique in terms of economic condition that is conducive to growth without inflation."

According to him, local factories are still operating at 50 percent to 60 percent capacity rate.

"And therefore, we can pump-prime the economy... equip the consumers with a lot of purchasing power without the nagging inflation, because the production is just operating at a more efficient rate," he argued.

Another factor that will dampen inflation is the expected over-abundance of agricultural products in the market, since the "weather has been cooperating with us nowadays."

Aside from the 4.5 percent growth predicted for this year, Mr. Villegas—a self-admitted "prophet of boom"—forecast that the per capita income of every Filipino will reach $1,500 by the end of the Ramos Administration, $500 higher than the government-targetted $1,000 per capita income.

Ramos Has 'No Plans' To Visit Taiwan

HK2002063393 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] President Ramos has no plans to visit Taiwan. This was announced by Presidential Spokesperson Annabel Tecson-Abaya, who said the president will no longer visit Taiwan because he was already scheduled to visit China. [sentence as heard] Abaya said the president made this decision following a request not to do so by Chinese Ambassador Huang Guifang, who stressed that Taiwan is still part of China. Both the Philippines and China have yet to set a date for the president's visit.

Meanwhile, Taiwan continues to be one of the country's primary investors. It has invested $20 million for the development of the country's water supply system and plans to invest an additional $20 million for the commercial development of Subic Bay.

Interior Secretary Offers Resignation to Ramos

HK2102074093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0441 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Text] Manila, Feb 21 (AFP)—The Philippines' interior secretary offered to resign Sunday to give President Fidel Ramos a free hand in re-organizing the police forces, a radio station reported here.

Radio station DZXL said Interior and Local Government Secretary Rafael Alunan sent his resignation letter to Ramos on Sunday. Ramos' spokesmen were unavailable for comment, and Alunan could not be reached for confirmation.

Alunan oversees the Philippine National Police (PNP), which has been under fire for a wave of kidnappings that has primarily targetted wealthy Chinese Filipinos. Some police officials have also been implicated in kidnapping and other crimes. Ramos last week called on the police leadership to voluntarily retire to allow him to conduct a sweeping reorganization of the 100,000-strong force. Several senior officials, including PNP director-general Raul Imperial, subsequently offered to quit.

The station quoted Alunan as saying his resignation would give Ramos "a free hand in selecting the new leadership in a dramatic step in the right direction." Alunan said his "advocacy for reforms, leadership and effective management in and off the PNP dictate that I too voluntarily submit myself with all the rest under me to his excellency's appraisal and judgment," the station said.

Ramos Rejects Resignation

HK2202015093 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Text] President Ramos has rejected the courtesy resignation submitted by Secretary Raphael Alunan III of the Department of Interior and Local Government.

According to the president, the directive he issued [requiring the courtesy resignation of all police officials] does not extend to Secretary Alunan and other civilian government officials. Alunan, currently the National Police Commission chief, voluntarily submitted his resignation in support of the president's call for a reorganization in the police.

The controversy over the police intensifed following reports linking several police officers to anomalies and the continuing spate of criminality in the country.

Thailand

Nobel Mission Urges UN To Expel Burma

BK1902125293 Hong Kong AFP in English 1130 GMT 19 Feb 93

[By Robert Birsel]

[Text] Chiang Mai, Thailand, Feb 19 (AFP)—The Nobel peace laureates' mission seeking the release of pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi called Friday for Burma's expulsion from the United Nations and an immediate embargo of arms sales to the country.

It also advocated an economic boycott of the Southeast Asian nation.

The seven Nobel laureates said they had defined two objectives to be met before an ousted Burma would be readmitted into the world body.

The first was that the military junta, officially known as the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) [words indistinct] and unconditionally release our sister laureate Aung San Syuu Kyi."

Suu Kyi, the daughter of Aung San, Burma's independence hero, has been held under house arrest in Rangoon since July 1989. She was awarded the Nobel peace prize in 1991.

The second objective, the laureates said at a press conference in this northern Thai city, was that the SLORC "accepts the results of the election of 1990 and begin an immediate dialogue with the democratically elected leadership of Burma ... this dialogue must involve Aung San Suu Kyi."

Despite Suu Kyi's imprisonment, her National League for Democracy swept the 1990 polls but Burma's ruling generals refused to relinquish power and intensified their suppression of pro-democracy activists.

The Nobel laureates said the SLORC had failed to acknowledge or act in response to concerns and recommendations cited in previous U.N. recommendations on Burma, thereby justifying the country's expulsion.

The laureates, including former Costa Rican president Oscar Arias and South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu, also called on the United Nations to impose an immediate and effective arms embargo on Burma.

"Of particular concern is the sale last year of 1.2 billion dollars worth of arms by the People's Republic of China," they said.

The mission said the United Nations and the international community should "cooperate in the application of a comprehensive economic boycott including trade and investment sanctions."

It also encouraged democratic governments to "provide humanitarian and political assistance to democratic movements opposed to the SLORC."

And it made a special plea to Burma's neighbours in Southeast Asia "to use their significant influence to encourage the SLORC to restore democracy to the people of Burma," while urging that "all bilateral and multilateral assistance to the SLORC be for humanitarian purposes only."

The recommendation capped an unprecedented crusade by the Nobel laureates to seek Suu Kyi's release. The group, which also includes the London-based rights organisation Amnesty International, is scheduled to testify before the U.N. Human Rights Commission in Geneva later this month.

All of the Nobel winners said they had been deeply moved by their visit Thursday to two Burmese refugee camps on the Thai side of the Thai-Burmese frontier.

The laureates were clearly shocked by what they heard from the refugees, most of them from Burma's Karen ethnic minority.

"The world has got to take action on what is happening in this part of our globe," said Northern Ireland peace campaigner Mairead Maguire.

Tutu, awarded the peace prize in 1984 for his opposition to apartheid in his homeland, said the visit to the refugee camps had filled him with a sense of deja vu.

But, he added, "The experience of South Africa and what the international community seems to have accomplished there in exerting pressure on the apartheid regime fills me with hope."

Northern Irish peace campaigner Betty Williams, reacting to comments from a senior SLORC official that their mission would have no affect on Burma's political and human rights policies, said the SLORC was "terribly frightened of a little woman called Aung San Suu Kyi."

Ross Daniels, a representative of Amnesty international, which won the peace prize in 1977, said external support—especially from China—was keeping the SLORC alive.

"We are being told the SLORC exists because somehow or other it is self-contained," he said. "It is being sustained because it is receiving significant assistance externally.

Seeks Review of UN Funds in Burma

BK1902131893 Hong Kong AFP in English 1208 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Chiang Mai, Thailand Feb 19 (AFP)—Seven Nobel peace laureates seeking the release of Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi called Friday for an investigation into Burma's reported misuse of U.N. program funds.

If it were found that the funds were being misused the programs should be terminated, the laureates said.

"We have been told that different U.N. programs ... are involved, providing funds for the Burmese people, for the government, and our main concern is that those funds are being channelled properly by the junta," former Costa Rican president Oscar Arias, the winner of the 1987 peace prize, said.

"Otherwise I think we should ask the U.N. to put an end to those programs and that funding," he added.

Arias mentioned the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the U.N. Development Programme as U.N. agencies still operating in Burma. A U.N. anti-narcotics organisation is also operating there.

The Nobel mission also called on the U.N. to expel Burma from the world body until Aung San Suu Kyi, now in her fourth year under house arrest, was released and other steps taken toward the restoration of democracy.

Human rights campaigners and activists have long charged that U.N. funding to Burma is being misused by the military government.

They say repeated requests for information about operations in Burma have gone unanswered, though U.N. personnel in Rangoon last month told reporters they were using committed funds only for grassroots projects, but had not made any new commitments.

Diplomats in Rangoon say there is an intense argument within the U.N. over what constitutes a "grassroots" project.

Ed Broadbent, president of the Montreal-based International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development, which is organising the laureates' mission, said the reports of misuse of U.N. funds were unconfirmed.

"We are treating this at this point as a serious allegation," he said.

Broadbent said the Nobel mission was seeking an audit of the U.N. operations in Burma.

Foreign Minister Comments on Dalai Lama Visit

BK1902141593 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, foreign minister, gave a special talk on foreign relations to a group of academics and lecturers this morning. At the talk, the foreign minister said that the Foreign Ministry had thoroughly considered the advantages and disadvantages in granting an entry visa to the Dalai Lama. The decision to allow the visit is in line with the government's policy of openness and respect for human rights. The Dalai Lama also came here as a Nobel laureate, not a political leader.

Regarding the country's relations with Burma, the foreign minister said that it would take a long time for Burma to restore democracy. If we put pressure on Burma as suggested by Western countries, Burma will not bow to it. This will also affect Thailand's role with regard to Burma. Thailand has to maintain relations with Burma so that we can persuade that country to open up to the international community in the future.

Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri also said that the Foreign Ministry will emphasize finding new trade markets for Thai exports, especially the Eastern European market, such as the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic.

Laureates Meet King, Urge UN Sanctions

BK2002023793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Feb 93 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt] Chiang Mai—Nobel peace laureates yesterday called on the United Nations to suspend Burma's membership of the world body until it releases pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi and transfers power to a democratically-elected government.

The seven laureates also called on the UN to impose an "immediate and effective" arms embargo against Burma and expressed "particular concern" about China's sale of $1.2 billion worth of weapons to the country last year.

They urged a comprehensive economic boycott and called on foreign aid donors to limit their assistance to "humanitarian purposes only."

The calls came in a joint appeal read to a press conference here yesterday afternoon by former Costa Rican president Dr Oscar Arias, the 1987 peace laureate who initiated the mission.

The laureates later submitted a copy of their appeal to His Majesty the King, who granted them an audience at Phuping Palace that lasted one hour and 45 minutes.

The appeal is to be presented to the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva next week.

In the appeal, the laureates demanded that Aung San Suu Kyi and her fellow political prisoners be released "immediately and unconditionally."

They insisted that SLORC accept the results of the May 1990 elections and begin "immediate dialogue" with those who triumphed.

They made clear that this dialogue "must involve Aung San Suu Kyi."

Suu Kyi, who has been under house arrest since July 1989, could not run in the elections but her National League for Democracy (NLD) won a landslide victory.

The arms embargo and call for the UN to suspend Burma's membership of the world body were measures to "ensure" and "encourage compliance" with the laureates' demand for the release of political prisoners and transfer of power, the statement noted.

The laureates at the same time called on members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to "use their significant influence to encourage SLORC to restore democracy to the people of Burma."

ASEAN has endorsed "constructive engagement" with the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) but the plight of "Rohingya" Muslim refugees languishing in Bangladesh has made for differences in practice among members of the six-nation grouping.

The laureates urged "democratic governments" of the world to "give voice and provide humanitarian and political assistance to democratic movements opposed to SLORC."

"We urge all political forces to engage in dialogue and pursue non-violent solutions to the challenges confronting the people of Burma," they added.

The laureates end their mission to Thailand today after a scheduled, unofficial meeting with Prime Minister Chuan Likphai this morning.

Some of the laureates will go on to Geneva to participate in the presentation of their appeal to the UN Human Rights Commission now in its 49th session.

The meeting scheduled for Monday will also hear their testimonies of what they have heard from Burmese students and refugees in Thailand.

At the press conference, Ross Daniels of Amnesty International stressed that ASEAN governments as well as the private sector have the "responsibility" to "bring the appropriate pressure to bear on the SLORC."

Amnesty International won the peace prize in 1977.

He was backed by Edward Broadbent, of the Canadian organising body, who said regional organisations have a "primary responsibility" to "deal with a particularly barbarous regime."

Mr Broadbent is president of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development (ICHRDD), which organised the mission.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa, the 1984 peace laureate, stressed that change was being asked of the entire world community.

"We are asking for a change in policy not only in ASEAN but in the whole world," he said.

"Instead of this policy of constructive engagement, we should change it to a policy of constructive and rapid disengagement," he added.

The laureates' mission has been slammed by SLORC as "outside interference."

Commenting on this, Betty Williams said SLORC's reaction showed that "they are terribly frightened by a small woman."

It also showed the junta's "cowardice," she added.

Mrs Williams shared the 1976 peace prize with Mairead Maguire for her part in the campaign for non-violence in Northern Ireland.

The press conference was emotionally-charged as the laureates recounted the tales they heard from students and refugees they met at camps on the Thai-Burmese border on Thursday.

They alluded to this experience in their joint appeal.

They said they had been told of men and women being used as "human minesweepers," of women and young girls being raped and subjected to other forms of "barbaric" torture.

As peace laureates, they were "deeply saddened" by these "personal histories.

"We have been moved to action so that their hope may be transformed into peace ... so that their courage may nurture the seeds of justice." [passage omitted]

Prasong Comments on Relations With Burma, China

BK2002030393 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Feb 93 p 3

[Text] Thailand is to continue its policy of "constructive engagement" with Burma despite an indication by Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri yesterday that Thailand supported calls for the release of detained dissident Aung San Suu Kyi.

"This party (of Nobel peace laureates) has come here to call on the Burmese leadership to release Aung San Suu Kyi, which is along the same line as our own thinking," he said.

He did not elaborate on the point but said Thailand had always kept up a dialogue with Burmese leaders.

This "Thai-style" constructive engagement would be pursued even though Thailand "may not agree" with Rangoon "on every issue," he said.

"If we were to adopt the Western approach with Burma, we would be abandoning our role.

"We are neighbours and we should keep up relations in order to bring them (Burma) out into the world community."

The foreign minister said Thailand continued to maintain "very good" relations with both Burma and China.

He brushed off suggestions that his forthcoming visit to China was aimed at clarifying the presence in Thailand earlier this week of the Dalai Lama.

"Bilateral relations and cooperation between Thailand and China are more significant than any worries about the Dalai Lama's visit," he said.

"China has not dwelled on this. Only some of our own people have," he said, in what appeared to be a reference to reservations expressed by senior military figures last Sunday and Monday.

Sqn Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong said he was taking up an invitation of long standing by paying an official visit to China from February 27-March 4.

The invitation was extended before he went to China last month for talks on Cambodia.

During the January 17-21 trip, Sqn Ldr Prasong carried an ASEAN initiative for Cambodian peace to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who was then in Beijing.

He was also received by Chinese Government ministers during the trip.

But the forthcoming visit is bilateral aimed at strengthening ties between the two countries, Sqn Ldr Prasong said.

Discussions will cover economic cooperation between the two countries including trade and investment, as well as the regional situation.

The foreign minister said he believed both Beijing and Rangoon understood the Thai Government decision to allow Nobel peace laureates into the country.

He said the decision was in line with the "pro-democracy" stance of the government.

"We believe the pursuit of any policy compatible with the principles of the democratic system is right," he said.

"This government is a pro-democracy government. On the basis of democratic principles and human rights, the visit of such honourable people cannot be refused."

Chuan Discusses Meeting Laureates

BK2002140693 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Six Nobel Peace prize winners and a representative of a human rights and democratic rights organization called on Prime Minister Chuan Likphai at Phitsanulok Villa. The prime minister said that during the hour-and-a-half-long meeting the Nobel laureates thanked the government for allowing them to come to Thailand to air their opinions, in particular that about Burma and the request for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi. He said:

[Begin Chuan recording] In short, they want a change in Burma. They want Aung San Suu Kyi to be released. Their desire to see democratic change in Burma is also ours. The foreign minister and I told them that we also have the similar view and used to talk with Burma about it. However, each country has its own way to work out things. As Nobel Peace Prize winners, they can say anything and leave the country. But we must consider relations with a neigboring country. Our proposal is a constructive one, not offensive or leaving Burma in isolation. Regarding the problem of Burmese students, they said Burmese students do not want to be in the center. I told them that no country in the world would allow foreigners to move around and do whatever they want. We do not want to take care of refugees because it is a heavy burden. In the case of Burmese students, we think of humanitarianism and the international practice. Who will be responsible for their safety, if they are harassed or killed? It is the government who will have to bear the responsibility and be blamed. Therefore, we must have a registration center for Burmese students. I can feel that they understand us. I told them that no country can allow foreigners to set up a government in exile and create problems in the country. [end recording]

Laureates Question ASEAN Stance Towards Burma

BK2102015893 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Feb 93 p A1,A2

[Text] The Nobel Peace laureates campaigning for the release of Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi yesterday urged Prime Minister Chuan Likphai to take the lead in pushing for change in Burma but the Thai leader indicated Thailand will continue to pursue its "constructive engagement" policy toward its western neighbor.

Speaking to reporters after meeting the laureates at his official residence at Baan Phitsanulok, Chuan said Thailand and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have their own way of dealing with Burma.

"It is a common stand of ASEAN to take a constructive approach rather than being aggressive or trying to isolate Burma," said Chuan.

The Nobel laureates on Friday issued a resolution in Chiang Mai recommending the United Nations suspend Burma's membership and called for sweeping arms and trade sanctions against the ruling junta in Rangoon to pressure it to free Suu Kyi and honor the results of a 1990 national election which her party won by a landslide.

Suu Kyi, 47, has been under house arrest in Rangoon since 1989. She was awarded the 1991 peace prize. The laureates yesterday also presented Chuan and Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri, with a copy of the resolution.

The resolution also urged ASEAN to end its "constructive engagement" policy toward Burma and use its influence to encourage democratic changes in that country.

Dr Oscar Arias, the 1987 Nobel Peace prize winner from Costa Rica, said as a democratic and key ASEAN country, Thailand can contribute to democratic changes in Burma.

While insisting that his government wants to see peace and democracy in Burma, Prime Minister Chuan said Thailand and ASEAN "have their own means of dealing (with the situation in Burma). And we have been doing that without making headlines."

Chuan also claimed that Thailand knows about "the cultures in this region" better than countries in other regions.

As a democratic country, Chuan said Thailand has its own independent foreign policy "but Thailand wants to follow the peaceful approach because we know the region better," he said.

The prime minister said many of the problems in this region were caused by "outsiders from other regions."

Chuan admitted Rangoon might feel offended by the visit here by the Nobel laureates but discounted the

possibility it might disrupt Thai-Burmese relations. "Burma should understand that Thailand is a free country and anyone can come in," he said.

Chuan said the Nobel laureates praised his government for its courage in allowwing their visit which was strongly protested by Burma and China. Beijing was offended by the presence of the Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, in the mission.

The Nobel laureates, who on Thursday visited camps for the Burmese in Mae Sot district of Tak on Thursday, wrapped up their five-day mission to Thailand yesterday with a roundtable conference on human rights at Chulalongkon University.

The laureates dismissed the "Asian way" of dealing with the repressive military regime in Burma and said that human rights were applicable to all countries.

Ross Daniels, the representative of 1977 winner Amnesty International, said he was told constantly that human rights do not sit easily with the tradition and culture of Asia. "They said they will do it the Asian way, and time must be sometimes allowed for the concept to show progress," he said.

"I don't believe that. There is nothing Asian about torture," he said.

He added: "I know what is going through the minds of the SLORC [Burma's State Law and Order Restoration Council]. They are thinking that if only these silly people would go to Geneva and we last a few weeks, all this will die down."

"Well I have a message for the SLORC: this is just the beginning," he declared to loud applause.

Daniels urged academics to take up the human rights issue and put it into practice so that "the tradition of Asia will show itself as being consistent with the human rights known all over the world."

Edward Broadbent, president of the Montreal-based International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development and organizer of the peace mission, echoed Daniels' view, saying that human rights do not belong to any particular country, or region.

Human rights, he said, belong to all countries and all societies. "They belong all over the world," he said, rebutting the often-heard suggestion that human rights are alien to the Asian way of thinking.

Other Nobel laureates joined in the call saying that the best way to fight for human rights is to fight from within the country with international support.

"Many people believe that Aung San Suu Kyi should leave the country. We believe she should stay and fight for human rights within the country," Adolpho Peres Esquivel of Argentina said.

Citing his own experience, Esquivel said through international solidarity good local support and organizations, he and his group were able to prevent dictators from governing Argentina.

Dr Arias, a former Costa Rican president, said democracy is a prerequisite for lasting peace. His peace plan for Central America won him the Nobel peace prize in 1987.

"We have been able to silence the guns. It is certainly applicable to every corner of the world," Arias said.

Asked whether there is a chance for an arms embargo against Burma to succeed, he said, the cooperation of United Nations Security Council will be crucial. "It will be a crucial moral test for China," he said.

China the major arms supplier of Burma, has provided up to US$ 10 billion worth of arms and ammunition, so far.

Changes in Southeast Asia, he said, will come "not by chance but by choice."

The roundtable, entitled, "Human Rights and Peace in Regional and Global Perspectives," was co-organized by Chulalongkon University's Faculty of Law, Union of Civil Liberty, Mahidon University and THE NATION.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa, the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize winner, also mocked the military regime in Rangoon.

"I hope the military government there—which is scared of a little woman—is made to quake in their boots because of our mission," he said, referring to Suu Kyi.

"I say, 'the world is watching you—watch out,'" Tutu said.

Tutu is a fervent believer of sanctions, which he said would work if it is imposed on Burma. He said changes that have taken place in his country, South Africa, did not come from the sudden change of heart of the white people, but through international sanctions.

"One must have an effective sanctions to be effective. Ineffective sanctions don't work," he said.

He dismissed as "baloney" the notion that sanctions would hurt the common people rather than the targeted government.

About of 20 Burmese students joined the discussion yesterday and toward the end they unfurled banners on the stage calling for the release of Suu Kyi.

The Nobel laureates, who were granted an audience with HM [His Majesty] the King in Chiang Mai on Friday night, left Thailand last night for Geneva to present their findings to a UN conference on human rights.

Editorial Urges Ending Constructive Engagement

BK2102023493 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Feb 93 p A10

[Editorial: "Time for ASEAN to Say Goodbye to Slorc"]

[Text] That the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' (Asean) constructive engagement policy with Burma has only served to keep a pariah regime in power in Rangoon is indisputable.

Governments in the region, however, have refused to budge when calls were made for them to disassociate themselves from the State Law and Order Restoration Council (Slorc). Never mind the gross human rights abuses carried out by Slorc against its own people, they said, for it is a domestic concern and therefore not the business of Asean. Never mind also what others think of Slorc, for the junta leaders are close buddies of the army leaders of the region.

The Asean nations, blasted by the world community for its policy towards Burma, explained unconvincingly that it had its own "special way" of bringing the despotic regime into line. Almost ad nauseam Asean repeated that its way was correct, and the West and others concerned about Slorc's harsh repressive measures should stay out of Burma or risk a backlash of criticism.

Asean—effectively a party to the funding of terror, sorrow and death—excuses its courting of Slorc on the grounds that it will force the ruling junta to adopt a softer line if Burma is included in the market economy of the region and can reap the benefits of Southeast Asia's boom. This is the trite argument put by regional leaders whose own human rights records are appalling: that human bellies have to be full before one can even talk about basic political and civil rights.

The harsh reality, however, remains. Cruel repression continues unabated in Burma, thousands languish in jail for voicing dissent to Slorc, thousands are forcefully conscripted into the Burmese military as porters or human shields, hundreds of women are raped every day at gunpoint by soldiers from the junta and Aung San Suu Kyi waits in lonely isolation, defying the generals with determination and resilence.

The peace mission by the Nobel laureates—to give an unprecedented show of support for the release of fellow laureate Suu Kyi—should nudge Asean into reconsidering whether its constructive engagement policy with Burma is appropriate after all. There must be some doubt about whether they will budge and heed the laureates' call to change "constructive engagement to a policy of constructive rapid disengagement".

Yet Asean has to consider that its prosperity will mean nothing to the international community if the regional group continues a less than pragmatic approach to human rights abuses and support for neighbouring repressive regimes. Furthermore, it is well known that constructive engagement means maintaining the status quo with Slorc and that also means a couple of generals and national leaders having their pockets well lined.

In this region, Burma is our Bosnia. It is the current killing fields of Asia, and we as citizens of Asean should feel ashamed that our governments are calling the Rangoon butchers their brothers.

Today, the Nobel laureates travel to Geneva to address the 49th session of the United Nations Human Rights Commission—after interviewing Burmese refugees along the Thai-Burma border—and will press for the toughest-ever UN resolution against Burma's military regime.

Asean will be mentioned in that resolution, and the region's constructive engagement with Slorc will be debated under the watchful eyes of those who cherish freedom and democracy.

The challenge now lies with the Asean governments to distance themselves from the murderous Slorc in the interests of saving thousands more Burmese and other ethnic groups from certain death. Asean, in particular Thailand, should have the moral fortitude to say that constructive engagement must stop.

Prime Minister Chuan Likphai took a courageous step in allowing the Nobel laureates to use Thailand to launch their peaceful protest against Slorc and their campaign of solidarity for Suu Kyi. His decision was a momentuous one for Thailand's foreign policy and his stand on building a solid base for democracy and human rights has not gone unnoticed by the international community.

Chuan's next bold move must be to stop constructive engagement with Slorc for the sake of a free Burma.

Minister 'Satisfied' With Burmese Border Talks

BK2202012093 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Feb 93 p 2

[Text] Disputes over Hill 491 on the Thai-Burmese border have been allayed by an agreement between Thailand and Burma to demarcate their common border.

The agreement resulted from a meeting of the Joint Boundary Committee in Rangoon. Talks began on Thursday.

Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan said soon after arriving home from Rangoon that by mid-May a joint team will make a technical survey of the area from the disputed hill to the spot where the boundary leaves the Pak Chan River.

This will pave the way for a demarcation plan.

The Thai-Burmese frontier from Hill 491 to the river is 20 kilometres long.

A military confrontation occurred at the hill in December, with both sides claiming the area as part of their territory.

A source at the meeting said Thailand wants to use a satellite technique, the Global Positioning System, to locate the boundary at Hill 491 and surrounding areas in order to shorten the process.

It has to discuss this with Burma.

Both countries agreed to survey and demarcate the land boundary at the Mae Sai and Nam Ruak rivers.

Mr Surin, who co-chaired the meeting with his Burmese counterpart, U Nyunt Swe, told the closing session yesterday he was "profoundly satisfied" with the outcome of the talks

The joint committee meeting was described by Mr Surin as another step forward because it was the first time the Burmese delegates had been given full authority from their government to discuss the border issue.

Vietnamese Deputy Minister Comments on Growth

BK2202140493 Hong Kong AFP in English 1120 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Bangkok, Feb 22 (AFP)—Washington's trade embargo is unable to hinder Vietnam's growth as it did in the past, and Hanoi increased output by 5.3 percent last year, Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh said here Monday.

Khanh, delivering the keynote speech to a forum on the region in the 21st century, said Vietnam had pushed up industrial output by 15 percent in 1992, reduced inflation from 70 to 15 percent and become a major rice exporter.

"These gains have been scored naturally through Vietnam's own efforts," Khanh said, adding however that Hanoi greatly appreciated cooperation from members of ASEAN.

ASEAN, which groups Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Brunei and Singapore, last year dropped its confrontation with Hanoi over its 1979 invasion of Cambodia and gave Vietnam observer status in the group.

Since then, Khanh said, Hanoi had signed nearly 30 agreements with ASEAN countries which laid "the foundation for long-term cooperation in economy, trade, science, technology, culture and education."

"The barriers installed by the U.S. embargo policy (are) no longer able to hinder Vietnam's economic growth as (they) did before," he said.

Khanh singled out the recent signing in Hanoi of a Mekong River development agreement as a "breakthrough" in regional problem solving, and said he hoped the same method of consultation and negotiation could be used in the South China Sea—a reference to the multi-cornered Spratly Islands dispute.

The Vietnamese deputy premier did not comment on the continuing impasse in Cambodia, but said Hanoi like ASEAN must "put behind us the past distrust and discord and look into the future noble objectives of peace, stability, cooperation and development ... as guidelines for resolving remaining disputes."

Earlier in the day Thai Prime Minister Chuan Likphai, whose government has said it hopes to become the main gateway for foreign investment in Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, told the forum he considered close cooperation between ASEAN and Vietnam "natural and indispensable" as the region entered the 21st century.

The one-day forum was arranged by Thailand's Institute of Security and International Studies.

Government To Establish Property Rights Watchdog

BK2002013893 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Feb 93 p 19

[Text] Deputy Commerce Minister Churin Laksanawisit yesterday said Thailand has prepared measures to deal with breaches of intellectual property of video and tape cassettes from the United States and the European Community.

Mr Churin said that the measures are that the government will set up an Intellectual Property Department and that the Attorney's department will directly take responsibility for the violation cases.

The Police Department has set up an economic crime suppression division to take legal action on trade mark violations.

The Commerce Ministry has set up a special task force to cooperate with the Police Department to tackle copyright problems. The task force is chaired by Mr Suchit Aphirati, the Commerce counsellor.

A Thai-US committee will be set up to follow court procedures in copyright violation cases. The government will cooperate with the EC and the International Federation of Phonographic Industries (IFPI) to set up a tripartite committee to take action on copyright violations.

The Intellectual Property Department will amend local laws to take on more international aspects. The government has a policy of destroying all counterfeited tapes and videos.

The Commerce Ministry will try to find sources that produce the faked tapes.

The government will encourage the private sector to set up groups to protest the violation. The government has approved the copyright and trade mark laws.

Commerce Ministry Reports U.S. Views on IPR

BK2302092593 Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 23 Feb 93 p 6

[Text] According to a report from the Commerce Ministry, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative has received assessments from four agencies concerning Thailand's violations of U.S. intellectual property rights [IPR]. These assessments are for use in ruling on priority foreign countries facing U.S. trade retaliation in April under Section 301 of the U.S. trade law.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce in Thailand has reported that Thailand has made efforts to amend the patent law, especially on expansion of drug patent protection, and that Thailand therefore should be withdrawn from the PFC list.

Meanwhile, three other agencies had a different attitude. The Trademark Association indicated there are still widespread trademark violations in Thailand. The International Organization on Intellectual Property has accused Thailand of not fully implementing the copyright law, which has already been amended, and has thus proposed to the U.S. Government that GSP [Generalized System of Preferences] rights on imports from Thailand be lifted.

The Association of Pharmaceutical Products Manufacturers has noted that Thailand's amendment to its drug patent law is incomplete since the law still does not give protection to drugs registered in foreign countries. It has therefore recommended retaliation against Thailand under Section 301 of the U.S. Trade Law.

Keidanren Delegation Discusses Investment

BK2002024793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Feb 93 p 2

[Text] Japan's powerful private sector federation, Keidanren, has pledged support for investment in infrastructure, supporting industries and environment protection in ASEAN countries.

Keidanren Chairman Gaishi Hiraiwa said yesterday that infrastructure in ASEAN countries is inadequate, they need investment in this area and the Japanese have the necessary skills.

Supporting industries are an important vehicle enabling ASEAN to develop high-tech industries, he said.

Regarding Thailand, which is striving to go high-tech, he said Japan could contribute through technological transfer by investment in supporting industries.

Keidanren also saw opportunities to invest in environmental activities, he said.

Mr Hiraiwa and his ASEAN mission met yesterday with Thai members of the Joint Standing Committee on Commerce, Industry and Banking.

The Keidanren mission admitted that Japanese investment in Thailand has fallen slightly because of the economic slowdown in Japan.

It said the decrease does not mean that Japanese investors have shifted their interest to Indonesia, Malaysia or Indochina.

Between 1987 and 1992 there were 1,149 applications for promotional privileges by Japanese investors; 947 were approved.

Of these, 412 projects were launched. In 1992, 107 Japanese-invested projects were launched compared to 124 projects in 1990.

Board of Trade Secretary-General Pramon Suthiwong said he proposed to the Keidanren that Japanese investment in Indochina be directed to three areas: infrastructure, basic industries, and human resources development.

The Keidanren suggested that more Thai exports of industrial goods to Japan would cut Thailand's trade deficit with Japan.

Regarding the opening up of the Japanese rice market, he said Japan would agree to any solution adopted by GATT.

In his opening speech before yesterday's meeting, BoT president Suwit Wangli said he would like to see Japanese investment in Thailand in high-technology industries, in medium-sized industries and in rural areas.

He also urged Japan to invest in ASEAN countries in such a way that the industries will complement each other.

Japan should also help in the restructuring of industries in ASEAN countries which will be affected by AFTA tariff cuts.

Keidanren Chairman Reports Meeting With Chuan

BK2202135393 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of Japan's economic federation or Keidanren, reporting about his meeting with Prime Minister Chuan Likphai, said he was impressed by the concern and responsibility of the Thai Government leader and that this has made Japan realize the importance of the Japanese private sector in Thailand's development.

Mr. Gaishi met the Thai prime minister on 19 February. He said the prime minister wanted Keidanren to emphasize the role of the private sector in Thailand's development and also Japan's role in the development of ASEAN. The prime minister believed Keidanren's performance is in keeping with the present development. Mr. Gaishi summed up the three points made by the Thai prime minister—first, he asked Japan to transfer environmental protection technology to Thailand;

second, he told Japan that Thailand is the gateway for trade and investment in Indochina; and third, he asked Japan to expand its investment in the region, especially in Thailand. As for Japan's call for better infrastructure, Mr. Gaishi said the Thai prime minister told him his government is trying to speed up projects to solve the present problem.

The Keidanren chairman and a group of members from Japan's private sector have ended their visit to Thailand. The visit was aimed at exchanging views with Thai economic leaders and to set directions in Japan's cooperation with ASEAN countries. The group left Thailand for Japan on 21 February.

Department Reports Trade With Japan, U.S.

BK1502084893 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Text] Between January and October last year, Japan emerged as Thailand's largest trading partner followed by the United States, the European Community, and ASEAN.

The Department of Business Economics said during the 10-month period trade between Thailand and Japan totalled 368.3 billion baht, an increase of 5 percent over the same period of the previous year. Thailand exported 120.4 billion baht worth of goods to Japan while importing 247.9 billion baht worth of goods from that country. As a result, Thailand suffered a trade deficit of 127.5 billion baht with Japan. The deficit dropped by 5 percent when compared with the same period of 1991.

Trade between Thailand and the United States between January and October 1992 was worth 250.1 billion baht, an increase of 18 percent over the same period of the previous year. Thailand gained a trade surplus of 53.9 billion baht with the United States. During the 10-months period, Thailand's trade volume with the European Community totalled 255.9 billion baht, and with ASEAN 195.6 billion baht.

Minister Optimistic on Trade Talks With U.S.

BK1902131193 Bangkok PHU CHATKAN in Thai 19 Feb 93 p 3

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak, in his capacity as chairman of the Coordinating Committee on International Economic Affairs, said the United States will announce in March the status of its trade partners based on their progress toward solving trade problems. He said Thailand will send a delegation led by Phatchara Itsarasena, permanent secretary of the Commerce Ministry, for talks with the United States.

Suphachai said Thailand had made progress toward solving trade frictions, such as through the state enterprise relations act. The Interior Ministry has been instructed to prepare an update on the labor issue for use in the negotiations.

Concerning the patent law which mainly involves pharmaceutical products, Suphachai said Thailand will not extend protection retroactively for five years as requested by the United States because Thailand believes that one-year protection is enough according to international standard. Also, Thailand will not abolish the drug patent committee as requested by the United States. The committee, under the Commerce Ministry, will not have overwhelming power to revoke licenses as feared, but will serve in screening work regarding patent protection.

Concerning copyrights, the deputy prime minister said the United States wants Thailand to act as a plaintiff in cases of copyright violations since, under Thai law, action can be taken against violators only when there are plaintiffs against them. The United States is not happy with the present situation—four or five major cases of violations have led to arrests, but no lawsuit could be filed against them. Suphachai said officials had been instructed to check if the withdrawal of the lawsuits was based on the consent of both the plaintiffs and the damaged parties. Nothing can be done if the withdrawal was by the two parties' common consent. Thailand confirmed its stand not to amend the copyright law.

A source at the Commerce Ministry reported that Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon also thinks that the United States should comply with Thai law. He thinks there should be no amendment to the Thai copyright law.

Commenting on Thailand's chances in negotiations with the United States which are scheduled for early March, Suphachai said now that the Clinton administration had adopted human rights and environment as policy issues in trade negotiations, Thailand stands to benefit from its courage in allowing the Dalai Lama to visit Thailand. This demonstrates Thailand's democracy and respect for UN principles. It would be good for Thailand if the United States takes this into consideration.

Prasong Proposes UNSC Rethink Cambodian Election

BK1902142293 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has proposed to the UN Security Council that it review the schedule for elections in Cambodia because the situation is still not conducive.

Talking about the elections in Cambodia scheduled for May, the Thai Foreign Minister, Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri, said he had proposed that the UN Security Council should make an extensive review before holding elections there because the atmosphere in Cambodia is not conducive for an election. Cambodia is still divided by factionalism and there is no unity in the country. Nobody knows who has the real power in Cambodia. So, there will be problems should the elections be held.

[Begin Prasong recording] ...as the situation is at present, nobody knows who has the real power in Cambodia.

Therefore, we can expect problems should the elections be held. Anyway, if they think they have to hold the election as set by the UNTAC, then go ahead. [end recording]

Prasong said that Thais who have businesses in Cambodia and who need help may contact the Interior Ministry, which is in charge. He said Thailand did not support sanctions against the Khmer Rouge because Thailand realized that pressure against the Khmer Rouge would never work.

[Begin Prasong recording] They might have thought that the measure of sanctions would work, and that the Khmer Rouge would not survive the sanctions. Well, even the UN secretary general himself knew that the measure would not work. Prince Sihanouk, when I met him in Beijing, also told me that the sanctions against the Khmer Rouge would not work. [end recording]

Interior Minister Holds Consultation in Laos

BK1802151493 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Interior Minister General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, accompanied by Police General Phao Sarasin, former deputy prime minister and interior minister; Anan Anantakun, permanent secretary of the Interior Ministry; Police General Sawat Amonwiwat, director of the Police Department; and the team of officials in charge of investigating the case of the Lao Bank robbery, was in Laos to receive gifts from the Lao People's Democratic Republic as a gesture of thanks for successfully retrieving the stolen money and returning it to Laos last year. The gift was handed over to Thai officials by Major General Asang Laoli, Lao interior minister.

After the presentation of the gift, the two sides held a session of official consultation covering several topics of mutual concern, including suppression and prevention of crime and drug trafficking along the common border.

Industries Complain About AFTA Competition

BK1602032993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Feb 93 p 26

[Text] Industries ranging from air conditioning and electronics to pharmaceuticals say the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) scheme is hurting them because they cannot compete with cheaper imports.

A representative of the pharmaceuticals industry has complained that tariff reductions on imports from other ASEAN countries, introduced on January 1, are threatening the existence of his industry.

Pharmaceuticals, electronics and electrical goods are among the 15 product groups earmarked for accelerated, or "fast track," tariff reductions phased in over a period of seven to 10 years instead of the normal 15 years of AFTA.

These complaints were heard at a seminar entitled "How Entrepreneurs Can Use AFTA's Tax Concessions" at the Chaophraya Park Hotel over the weekend.

They show that serious doubts still remain among Thai businessmen on whether AFTA is really bringing them benefits. Air-conditioning manufacturers and the pharmaceutical and electronics industries said they have difficulty competing with products imported from countries with lower production costs.

A representative of the Mitsubishi air-conditioning manufacturer who spoke from the floor and insisted on anonymity, said that the company has to make serious adjustments to compete with products from a neighbouring country.

Questioned on whether Thailand will gain or lose in participating in AFTA, the director of the Office of Economic and International Trade Coordination, Karun Kittisatthapon, replied that AFTA does not intend to benefit certain specific countries, but aims to provide benefit for every ASEAN nation.

Mr Karun said that tax and trade barriers reduction may have an impact on some industries of the country in the short term, but it is inevitable because Thailand, as a GATT member, must reduce trade tax in the near future to meet the trade commitments in GATT.

Furthermore, AFTA will be the preparatory stage for Thai entrepreneurs before stepping into the international trade stage once GATT is enforced, Mr Karun added.

However, entrepreneurs who cannot support this change can submit the problem to the Government to be reviewed, said Mr Karun.

"The Anan Government had enough confidence that the country's economic situation was ready for AFTA before proposing the project, and believed that AFTA was suitable for Thailand," said Kritsada Utthayanin of the Fiscal Policy and Tax Division, Economic Fiscal Office.

Electronics is one of the industries affected by AFTA, according to a representative of the electronics industry. He said Thailand has to import electronic parts, which results in high cost of investment and high prices when compared with Indonesia and Malaysia.

In this case the manager of the economic consultant office of the Charoen Phokphan Group, Phonsi Laoruchisawat, suggested new technology to serve consumers' demands, especially local sales.

"We can import some low-cost-of-investment products such as televisions to improve them and make them furniture at the same time. This strategy can be adapted for many industries. It means that Thailand need not be just a raw materials source for other countries. We can import raw materials or semi-processed products to produce processed products, and then export them to the world market," said Ms Pornsri.

She added that it is time for Thai entrepreneurs to jointly develop the country's economic and industrial structure to serve GATT commitments in the near future.

Vietnam

Spokesman Rejects Khmer Rouge Allegations

BK2202130093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 22 Feb 93

[Text] On 20 February, the spokesman of the Vietnamese Embassy to the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia issued the following statement:

On 19 February, at a news conference in Phnom Penh, Mak Ben, Democratic Kampuchea [Khmer Rouge] spokesman, grossly accused Vietnam of conducting military activities in Cambodia. These allegations by Democratic Kampuchea are aimed at misleading public opinion on their activities to undermine the Paris Peace Agreement on Cambodia.

The spokesman of the SRV Embassy to the SNC is authorized to totally reject these ill-intentioned allegations by Mak Ben and once again affirms that the SRV has always honored the Paris Peace Agreement and seriously implemented provisions concerned with Vietnam. Vietnam has had no troops in Cambodia since September 1989 and has never sent back to Cambodia any troops or weapons whatsoever.

U.S. Said Losing Out on Trade Opportunities

BK2302102393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. Senator Pressler of the Republican Party, South Dakota, who is a Vietnam war veteran, has told the U.S. Senate that now it is time to close the Vietnam war chapter and open up a new chapter of cooperation and participation. Here is our opinion on this issue.

U.S. Senator Pressler said it is now time to make another front step in the U.S.-Vietnam relations. It is time to normalise the relations between the two countries. President Clinton has inherited a policy in the transitional period. It is a charge to keep to the road map worked out by Mr Bush, and worked out in a process of [words indistinct]. Senator Pressler mentioned that the United States has carried out all [word indistinct] road map. He holds that it is time to change the process now if the U.S. wants to bring back its [words indistinct] to obtain the objective of its policy towards Vietnam. President Clinton must work out a new road map by lifting the trade embargo against Vietnam, and set up diplomatic relations with this country.

Senator Pressler also said while other countries increasing their investment in the developing economy of Vietnam, American businessmen are [passage indistinct] and are unable to participate in the process. He maintained that if President Clinton still clings to Mr Bush's road map, the U.S. embargo will lose its current value as a lever. He held that the U.S. is having a good chance to obtain more achievements, especially the POW, on other issues that are present in Vietnam.

Senator Pressler said [word indistinct] diplomacy is not as valued as a lever, and it's relishing the possibility of making the United States a participant in the Vietnam (?embargo). Senator Pressler then followed that economic, diplomatic, and political prices paid for the delay of the normalisation of relations between the two countries were continuing to rise.

In conclusion, he said: Now it's time to abolish the policy of isolating Vietnam, and to set up normal relations with Vietnam.

Leaders Receive Visiting Thai Princess

BK2002153293 Hanoi VNA in English 1502 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb 20—During her stay here from Feb.17 to 19, Thai Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon on a current visit to Vietnam, visited a number of economic, cultural establishments and historical relics in north Vietnam.

In Hanoi, the Thai princess paid tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum and visited his office and residence. She was cordially received by Secretary General of the Communist Party of Vietnam Do Muoi, President Le Duc Anh and Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet. The princess visited a number of museums, historical relics and cultural and architectural projects, took part in cultural activities held in her honour and visited the Nguyen Dinh Chieu School for Blind Children.

The princess also visited relics of the Dien Bien Phu battle and a commune of the Thai ethnic minority in the northern mountain province of Lai Chau.

This morning, the Thai princess left here for a visit to the southern provinces. An official farewell ceremony was held at the presidential palace in the presence of Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam and other high officials.

Princess Meets Do Muoi

BK2202110693 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] The visiting Thai Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon on Wednesday afternoon paid a courtesy visit to Vietnamese party leader Do Muoi and conveyed to the latter the greetings from His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet.

The Thai princess expressed the desires of the king, the royal family, the government, and people of Thailand to

further develop the Thai-Vietnamese friendship, cooperation, and good neigbourliness. For his part, the Vietnamese party leader reaffirmed Vietnam's wish to continue consolidating and developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries, in the interests of both peoples, and for peace, stability, and prosperity in the region and the world as a whole.

In the evening, the Thai princess was honored at a banquet hosted by Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet.

Radio Voices 'Opinion' on Ties With Thailand

BK2302085893 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Station "opinion" on the current official visit by Thai Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon and an earlier visit by Thai Crown Prince Wachiralongkon]

[Text] Over the last one year, Vietnam and Thailand have entered a new stage—the stage of mutual cooperation and development. Prime ministers of the two countries have exchanged their official friendly visits. During this period, the two countries signed many important agreements on economic, scientific, and technological cooperation. Trade turnover between Vietnam and Thailand has been on the increase, reaching U.S.$100 million this month.

Thailand ranked first among ASEAN investors to Vietnam, with $36.8 million invested in 18 projects. More than 100 Thai companies have been doing business with Vietnam.

However, there remain obstacles in the relations between the two countries. But the most important thing is that both Vietnam and Thailand have agreed to settle pending problems through negotiations, while considering mutual interests. Rapid progress has been seen in the relations between the two countries. Over the last few months in particular, these relations have been consolidated and broadened.

The visits to Vietnam by the Thai Crown Prince Wachiralongkon and Princess Sirinthon demonstrate that development; so does the increased trade figures and mutual cooperation plans.

Paper Views Importance of Plenum Resolutions

BK2002145793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 14 Feb 93

[Text] Scrupulously implementing the Party Central Committee's fourth plenum resolution is a matter of decisive significance to the task of applying it to our daily life.

Touching on this matter, an editorial in the paper NHAN DAN today says:

At its fourth plenum, the Party Central Committee discussed and issued a resolution on a number of issues directly related to the people's livelihood, especially their spiritual life and health, with the viewpoint expounded by Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi that people are the most valuable asset and that caring for the happiness of people is the loftiest aim of our regime.

The plenum issued resolutions on work related to culture, literature, and art for the years ahead; on the continuation of renovation of education and training; on pressing problems in public health care and protection; on population and family planning policies; and on youth-related work in the new stage.

Each resolution of the Party Central Committee assesses the situation of and sets forth guiding thoughts, targets, orientations, and measures for each domain of work. These resolutions, however, are all permeated with a vital spirit, that is, to develop the intellect, to augment the physical strength, to diversify the spiritual life, and to constantly cultivate the virtue of our people, especially the younger generation, in the direction of bolstering manpower, elevating the intellectual standard of the people, and bringing up men of talent, as affirmed in the Seventh Party Congress resolution.

That colossal task is aimed at making preparations for the Vietnamese people to embark on the new stage with aspirations and superior intellect, ability, and physical strength to achieve the objectives of making the people prosperous, the country powerful, and society civilized in the direction of socialism, as well as to suppress and prevent negative manifestations that are emerging in the new situation.

Caring for the people's livelihood, especially their spiritual life and health, at a time when the economy still has not fully been developed is somewhat difficult and requires appropriate steps. These resolutions, however, are all permeated with the viewpoints that economic problems must be combined closely with social problems and that all party and state organs must uniformly manifest interest in the responsibilities of various mass organizations, as well as in various mass movements.

The editorial points out: Implementation always remains a matter of decisive significance to the task of applying the party's resolution to daily life. To firmly grasp and resolutely implement the fundamental viewpoints of the party concerning the need to care for and foster people, especially youths, party organizations and party members must first of all, accurately understand the vital importance of these viewpoints, as well as the party's fundamental ideas, targets, orientations, and measures for each domain of work.

In a law-governing state, all party resolutions must be institutionalized into state laws. At the conference of people's committee chairmen from all provinces and cities that was held shortly after the Party Central Committee's fourth plenum, the government introduced

a specific program of action to effect obvious changes in the educational, scientific, cultural, and social domains from 1993.

Through various policies, systems, and legal documents, we must create the necessary conditions for the development and improvement of the quality and efficiency of sociocultural activities. We must also establish a legal basis for the restoration of order and discipline and prevention of negative phenomena.

The editorial says: To care for the people's spiritual life and health, it is necessary to rationally increase the level of investment as specified in the Party Central Committee's resolution.

The National Assembly has decided to increase expenditures for educational, medical, and cultural activities and the enforcement of population and family planning policies. The government has also decided on a number of policies and systems to promote and support cultural, literary, and artistic activities.

However, because our country is still poor, expenditure for cultural, educational, and medical activities has increased by only a small percentage. In view of this, it is necessary to vigorously develop the existing potentials in various localities and among the people under diversified forms in an effort to improve the quality of cultural, educational, medical, and other social activities.

Any attempt to wait for or to rely on state assistance and any desire to return to the subsidy-based system of the past will adversely affect the efforts to develop people's great potential and creativity in these domains.

Many resolutions have already been issued by our Party Central Committee in support of the implementation of the Seventh Party Congress resolution. These resolutions are closely interrelated. Therefore, we must implement the resolution of the fourth plenum along with those of the second and third plenums. As the comrade general secretary put it, firmly grasping the socioeconomic situation is the central duty and building up the party is the key task.

Let us strive to effect consistent and vigorous changes in all aspects of the socioeconomic situation in 1993 and the subsequent years.

Prostitution Control Resolution Issued

BK2002094593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 11 Feb 93

["Text" of the SRV Government's resolution on prostitution prevention and control; dated 29 January]

[Text] Prostitution is a social vice. Prostitution was basically done away with in our country, both in the North and the South, for many years following the liberation. But in recent years, this bad practice has reoccurred, thus eroding our people's ethics, customs, and tradition, adversely affecting our cultural and social life, public order and security, and more seriously, likely enabling the AIDS disease to spread, and leaving grave consequences for future generations.

This bad practice is arousing concern and indignation among the people. The reasons for this situation are that a segment of the people who are not adequately educated on how to lead a wholesome lifestyle have indulged themselves in a debauched and pleasure-seeking life, that the state mangement on the social aspect from the central down to local levels has been lax, and that legal actions against prostitution have not been strict enough.

In order to gradually dispel and then to eradicate the scourge of prostitution and to ameloriate the social life, the government hereby decides on the following policies and measures:

1. Resolutely eradicate the scourge of prostitution, including buying and selling of sex in any form. This is a very complex and difficult job, the responsibility of which rests with the state management organs, with various echelons, sectors, mass and social organizations, and with the entire people. In the immediate future, measures should be taken to promptly avert and to eradicate the scourge of prostitution, particularly in big cities and industrial and tourist centers. Didactical propaganda and administrative measures and legal actions should be combined with organizing the treatment of diseases and conducting vocational training to create appropriate jobs for those entering into prostitution due to economic difficulties.

2. Widely spread propaganda on the danger of the course of sex buying and selling—which is associated with the catastrophe of AIDS—so everyone can understand and find it necessary to eradicate the scourge of prostitution from social life. It is necessary to teach a wholesome lifestyle to preserve the fine national ethical tradition among the people, especially youths and teenagers.

3. Map out an interministerial antiprostitution programme whose main contents consist of:

a. Conducting a survey for classification of prostitutes. With those professional prostitutes, it is necessary to round them up for vocational training and to create jobs for them in each populated area. The state shall set aside a necessary operational fund for this program.

Beginning 1993, the Ministry of Labor, War Invalids, and Social Welfare shall discuss with the Ministry of Finance to set aside part of the social security budget for this program.

b. Severe punitive actions shall be taken against those acting as procurers and pimps under any forms and at anywhere such as at hotels, convalescence homes, restaurants, and night clubs in accordance with the criminal code. If these facilities are privately run or nongovernmental establishments, their business licenses shall be revoked and their operators shall be prosecuted according to the criminal code. If these facilities are state establishments, the managers of these establishments shall also be prosecuted according to the criminal law

while their responsible, next-higher echelons shall also be made to face administrative penalties.

c. With regard to sex buyers, including civil servants of whatever positions, a violation report shall be made with a copy of which to be forwarded to their parent agencies. They shall be made to face severe administrative disciplinary actions and their offense may be publicly announced on the mass media as a deterrent for all. If the offender is not a civil servant, a violation report shall be made and he will be delivered to the local authorities who will have him pledge not to commit the offense again.

4. The responsibilities of the administration at various levels and of relevant ministries and sectors: The chairmen of the people's committees at various levels shall ascertain the prostitution situation in their areas of responsibility and shall map out prostitution prevention and control plans for each specific time in their localities. As an immediate task, they shall take prompt measures to do away with those places offering prostitution in any forms and shall severely punish the procurers and those lending a helping hand to them.

The Ministry of Interior shall intensify the control of those places such as hotels, restaurants, and convalescence homes where there are indications of prostitution and shall round up prostitutes into social establishments for education, disease treatment, and vocational training.

The Ministry of Public Health is dutybound to provide medical treatment to prostitutes at public health units, social welfare centers, or when they are with their families.

The General Tourist Department must strengthen its control over units under its jurisdiction. If prostitution exists in areas under these units, the unit heads will be dealt with according to criminal law.

The Ministry of Justice and agencies concerned must study, supplement, and amend laws on prosecution of prostitution for submission to the government, which will then seek National Assembly approval.

The Ministry of Education and Training and the Ministry of Culture and Information must strengthen their coordination to formulate methods to provide information on the consequences of prostitution at schools and other social establishments. Efforts must be made to motivate sectors, agencies, and people to prevent and eliminate this social vice.

The Ministry of Labor, War Invalids and Social Welfare is dutybound to launch and supervise a campaign to eliminate prostitution while creating more jobs and fighting against hunger and poverty. It is imperative for the ministry to set up a number of centers for medical treatment, education, and training of ex-prostitutes. Efforts must be made to set up vocational training courses for these people, especially on tailoring, weaving, and knitting. More jobs should be offered to them by the various new economic zones, especially by the Tan Hiep project in Ho Chi Minh City and the Soc Son project in Hanoi.

Efforts must be made by the Vietnam Fatherland Front, the Vietnam Women's Union, the Confederation of Vietnamese Workers, the Vietnam Peasants Association, the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, and other social welfare establishments to educate and motivate their members to struggle against prostitution and to participate in campaigns to prevent and eliminate this social vice.

Ministers and heads of organizations at ministry level, chiefs of government agencies, and people's committee chairmen of provinces and municipalities directly subordinate to the central government must take measures to effectively implement this resolution.

National Assembly Standing Committee Meets

BK2202110893 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] The Standing Committee of the National Assembly met in Hanoi on Tuesday with the representatives of 32 ministries and other offices to implement its resolutions worked out at the second session on lawmaking in 1993.

Chairman of the National Assembly Office Vu Mao announced the list of 20 draft laws and nine state ordinances to be compiled in 1993. The list has been ratified by the National Assembly Standing Committee in early February.

Resolution Issued on Youth-Related Work

BK2102140993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 16 Feb 93

["Text" of fourth party Central Committee Plenum Resolution on youth-related work]

[Text] **I. Youth-related situation**

Our young people form a large social force with great potential. Inheriting the nation's fine traditions and revolutionary achievements and through the expansion of international exchanges, they now have a higher standard of knowledge than in the past and a wider range of vision, are sensitive to the national and international situations, and are motivated by ardent patriotism and a great desire to lead the country out of poverty and backwardness and achieve prosperity, strength, and civilization. They unanimously support and enthusiastically participate in the renovation undertaking and in the building and defense of the socialist fatherland. Young talents and good models have emerged from the production and business world; from the struggle for national sovereignty and security; and from school, scientific-technical, cultural and artistic, sports, or social activities.

However, not a few young men and women are losing their political bearings because of the socioeconomic crisis of the country and the collapse of socialism in the former Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries. Millions of youths are unemployed or have very meager earnings. The number of illiterates and school dropouts among the young generation has increased, especially in rural and mountain areas. The health of young people and children tends to deteriorate and the number of street children remains substantial. A section of youth shows little interest in political activities; attaches no importance to revolutionary traditions; avoids fulfilling military service; vacillates and lacks confidence in socialism; espouses an unhealthy lifestyle in disregard of human and cultural values, discipline, and ethical norms; or takes part in many social vices. Superstition is on the rise. Many young men and women still maintain a negative attitude or are worried now that the system of state subsidization no longer exists. Their professional skills do not match with the market-oriented economy.

II. Concerning youth-related work

Together with the achievements already recorded, the party policy on renovation is creating a new environment for youths to bring their talents into play, contribute to society, and gradually improve their lives.

The implementation of Resolution No. 25 of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee, sixth term, has brought about initial results. However, as the revolution entered a new stage of development, no timely measures have been taken to renovate youth mobilization work. Major shortcomings still remain as follows: There is a serious lack of profound knowledge of youths' role and of the contents of youth-related work in the new stage of development. Solutions to youth-related problems do not accurately reflect youths' mentality and their new demands. A number of old party cadres and members still have little respect for or confidence in youths. Many party members have become degenerated, deviant, or incompetent. As a result, youths' confidence in the party has decreased. Youth-related work still cannot respond to the demands arising from party renovation and development. Party committee echelons still remain unspecific when it comes to leadership and guidance. The state is still slow to institutionalize party resolutions. It does not make the necessary investment in or set up special organizations to implement youth-related work.

Despite its efforts to respond to the new stage of development, the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union still displays many shortcomings and weaknesses. Its role and influence on youths have diminished. The tasks of uniting and rallying youths and educating teenagers and children are still limited. People's organizations, mass societies, and many families have not attached due importance to efforts to care for and educate teenagers and children.

The major orientations for our policy on youth-related work are as follows:

1. Youths form the shock force in national construction and defense. Whether renovation can succeed or not, whether the country can have a worthy role in the world community in the 21st century, and whether the Vietnamese Revolution can stand firm on the road to socialism depends largely on the youth force and on the fostering and training of the young generation. Youth-related work is a vital task of the nation as well as a decisive factor of the success or failure of the revolution. As Uncle Ho correctly put it, for the interest of 10 years, we must plant trees but for the interest of 100 years, we must educate people. Therefore, youth-related work must assume a key role in our population and human resource development strategy.

The party puts profound confidence in the young generation and brings into play youths' right of mastership and great capabilities so they can fulfill their historic mission and take the lead in the struggle to overcome poverty and backwardness; build and defend the fatherland; achieve prosperity, strength, and civilization for society; and bring about freedom and a bountiful, happy life for the people.

2. It is necessary to train, educate, and foster young men and women and create every condition for them to develop themselves into new people with noble ideals, a high sense of responsibility as citizens, adequate knowledge, good health, excellent work performance, a lifestyle built upon fine cultural values, righteousness, profound patriotism, and genuine sense of internationalist duty.

It is important to encourage Vietnamese young men and women to nurture great ambitions, uphold a sense of national strength based on everyone's spirit of self-sufficiency and self-reliance, display dynamism and creativeness, have a good command of new science and technology, make efforts to meet the standards set by the times, and catch up with other young people worldwide. It is imperative to foster a generation of outstanding young men and women who remain firm politically and are determined to follow the socialist path, who set good examples for the young generation to follow, and who will become competent business leaders and outstanding specialists in various domains of our society. They must be capable scientists, competent writers and artists, and high-skilled workers.

3. Developing the strength and potential of the younger generation.

To resolve the unemployment problem for the youth, increase their income, and improve their daily lives are the most urgent tasks of the party and state. We must encourage the youth to build their future and encourage them to create their own jobs and work for others. The state will organize and mobilize the youth to participate in building projects in various domains and in launching important economic development programs while taking appropriate measures to resolve the unemployment

issue. The state will provide loans to households to engage in production and business. Efforts must be made to amend and supplement various stipulations on labor management to help the youth easily find jobs, promote the export of labor, expand the network of vocational training, and provide more jobs for workers. Efforts must also be made to meet requirements in training, production, cultural, tourist, and sports activities for youths to ensure a happy family life for them.

We must strive to foster the youth's capabilities, charge them with challenging tasks, and assign them positions commensurate to their capabilities. We must assign more young cadres to leading management positions at various echelons and sectors. We must satisfactorily restore the youth's function, improve their training and cultural activities, and provide appropriate jobs for young combatants who are sick or crippled. We must take appropriate measures to promote activities of ethnic minority youth.

4. We must strive to build a firm and strong Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union [HCMCYU] politically, ideologically, and organizationally to make it a reliable reserve unit of the party.

Efforts must be made to consolidate and renovate the HCMCYU's activities, especially those at the grass roots level. We must train and foster members of the youth union at all levels, strengthen unity among youths at various organizations attached to the HCMCYU, care for and build the Ho Chi Minh Vanguard Teenagers Unit, and improve methods of educating and training children.

5. To create healthy social conditions to develop the younger generation is also the task of the present youth. Efforts must be made to resolve pressing issues; to restore social order and discipline; to build a new work-style in accordance with the law; to oppose decadent culture and superstition; and to suppress drug addiction, prostituion, gambling, corruption, smuggling, counterfeiting, and other crimes. We must strive to ensure social order and safety; and implement a modern lifestyle in densely populated areas, grass roots units, schools, and other public places. We must build new-cultured families who will take more responsibility in educating and training youth and teenagers.

III. Responsibility of the party, state, and mass organizations in youth-related work.

1. The party takes responsibility in managing the political system and in implementing youth-related work. Various party committees from the central to the grass-roots levels must formulate plans to carry out youth related work during their term of office. They must coordinate with state agencies to formulate laws, policies, and programs for the youth related work. Various party organizations must strive to strengthen the youth union and accelerate the youth revolutionary action movement. Party members must act as leaders, set good examples for the youth, and act as close friends to them. We must strive to strengthen the party through the cooperation of the youth. Various party committees and institutes of social sciences must strengthen their research work and formulate measures to resolve issues related to youth-related work theoretically and practically.

2. The state shall promulgate and perfect policies on providing jobs, education, and health care for the youth while applying other socioeconomic policies to create favorable conditions for the healthy development of the younger generation and the youth movement. The state shall formulate and promulgate legal documents concerning youth-related work, set up government organizations to handle youth-related tasks, formulate regulations on coordination between government agencies and youth organizations, build material bases for youths such as cultural, sports, and vocational training centers, and promote the training and fostering of cadres responsible for motivating youths and teenagers.

3. Various mass organizations, the Armed Forces, and mass societies must formulate programs to promote youth activities and design measures to coordinate with youth unions and teenager organizations to carry out the program of action.

For the CPV Central Committee

[Signed] Do Muoi, general secretary

Vo Van Kiet Receives Indian State Secretary

BK2002075193 Hanoi VNA in English 0624 GMT 20 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 19—Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet this afternoon received Mr. Salman Khursid, secretary of state for foreign affairs of India, and his party now on a visit to Vietnam.

Present at the reception were Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien and Indian Ambassador to Vietnam S.L. Malik.

The prime minister said the tested reliable fraternal ties are a stable foundation to strengthen the friendship and development of the cooperative relations between the two countries in the new stage in diversified forms and with a higher quality for the prosperity of each country, for peace, friendship and development of the region and the world as a whole.

Mr. Salman Khursid briefed the prime minister about the areas where India would like to enhance cooperation with Vietnam, such as training Vietnamese personnel in banking, tourism and insurance. He said he was very optimistic about an early signing of agreements on cooperation and for the establishment of the largest overseas joint ventures of India in Vietnam.

Indian State Secretary's Activities Reported

BK2102150993 Hanoi VNA in English 1452 GMT 21 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb.21—Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Nien and Indian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Salman Khurshid have held talks in Hanoi on Vietnam-India bilateral relations as well as international and regional issues of common concern.

The two sides noted with satisfactory that in the past time, especially since the visit to India by a highlevel delegation led by Party General Secretary Do Muoi, the friendship and cooperation between the two countries in economy, trade, science, technology and culture have developed remarkably.

The two sides agreed to take further measures to broaden and raise the effectiveness of their bilateral cooperation, particularly in the fields of trade, agriculture, medium- and small-scale industries, light industry, processing industry, tourism and personnel training.

To that end, the two sides planned to sign soon an agreement on aviation cooperation and another on the prevention of double taxation, and to create favourable conditions for more meetings between the business circles of the two countries in order to explore possibilities for further cooperation, including joint ventures.

They shared the view that in the new situation, vietnam and India would promote cooperation, regularly exchange views on international and regional issues, and contribute to peace, friendship and cooperation in the region and other parts of the world.

During his stay in Hanoi, Mr. Salman Khurshid and his party paid a floral tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mauseleum.

He had working sessions with Minister of Heavy Industry Tran Lum, Minister of Light Industry Dang Vu Chu, Minister of Finance Ho Te and Minister of Commerce Le Van Triet.

While in Ho Chi Minh City, Mr. Salman Khurshid called on vice mayor of the city Truong Tan Sang.

Indian Ambassador to Vietnam S.L. Malik also joined the Indian delegation's above-said activities.

The Indian guests left Ho Chi Minh City for home today, concluding their visit to Vietnam from Feb. 18.